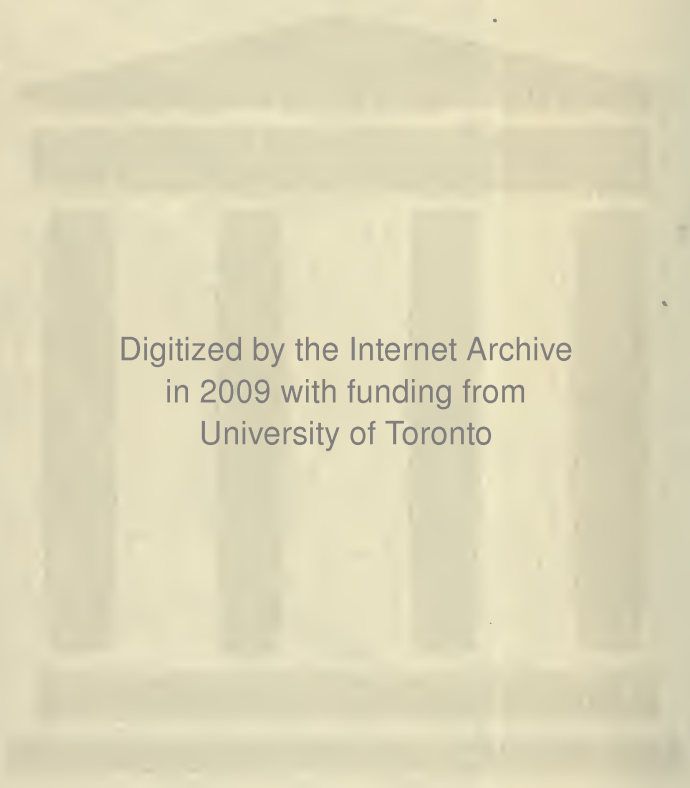
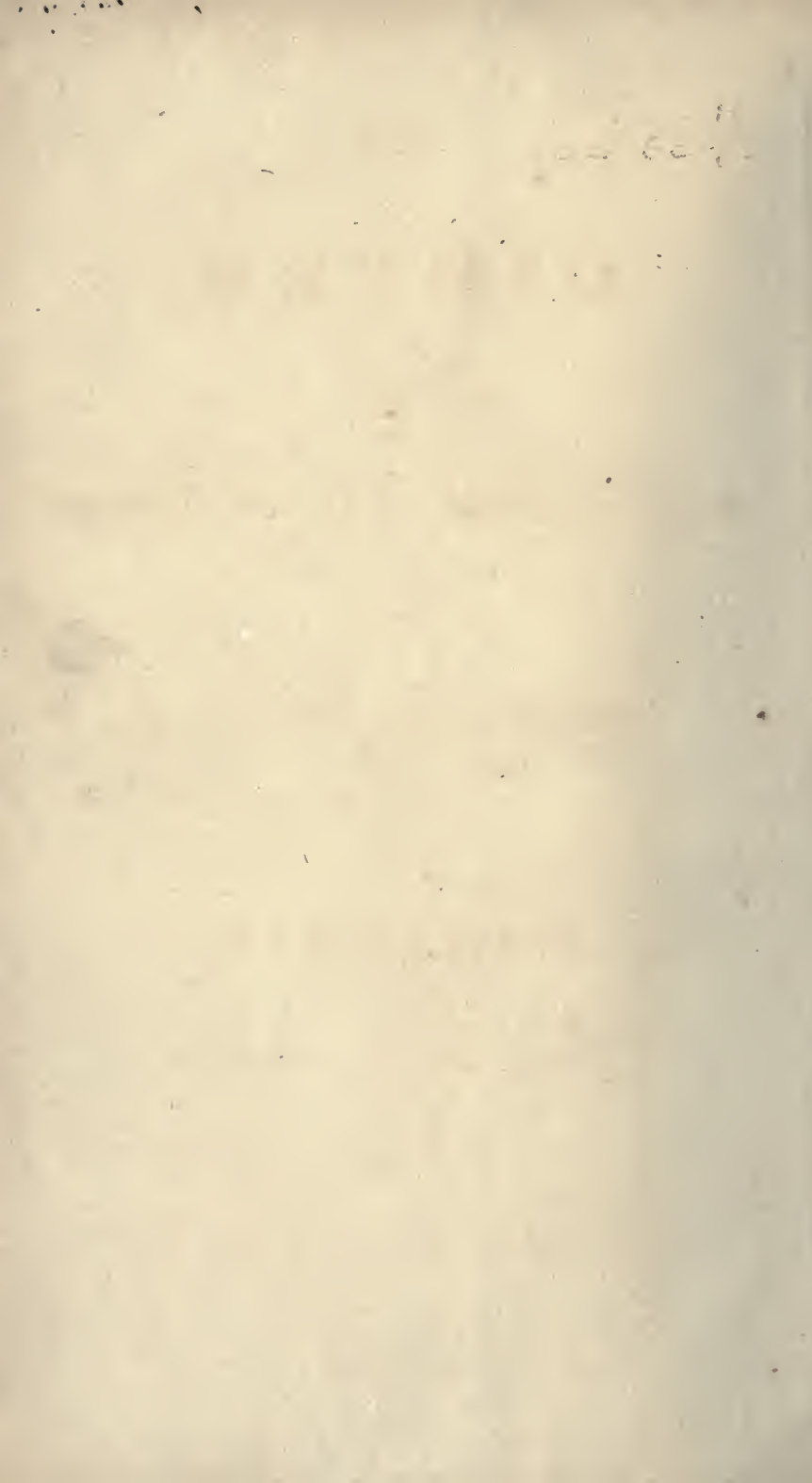




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THE

CIRCLE,

OR

HISTORICAL SURVEY

OF

SIXTY PARISHES AND TOWNS

IN

CORNWALL.

By

William Penaluna

HELSTON:

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Printed and Published by William Penaluna.

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1819.

THE

CIRCLE

OF

HISTORICAL MUSEUM

SIXTY VOLUMES AND TOWNS

CORNWALL

EDITION

Printed and Published by William Lacey

1819

PREFACE.



IN compiling a work of this nature, the chief object in view, has been to supply at a moderate expence, an Ancient and Modern Parochial History of the most interesting parts of Cornwall, which unquestionably commences at Truro, and encircles all the parishes and towns west of it;—this district being esteemed far more antique and romantic than any other part of England. With these select ideas in view, it may not be considered pedantic in submitting this work to the public, under the title of “*The Circle; or Historical Survey of Sixty Parishes and Towns in Cornwall.*” Whatever peculiarly distinguishes the County, either in the vegetation which adorns its surface, its subterranean treasures, or monumental antiquities, are principally to be found in this part of it. Here also the memorials which shew the state of the arts, and illustrate the manners of former ages, are more numerous than in any other part, and in general are less injured by the active hand of industry or silent ravages of time.

This district, with few exceptions, contains the principal mines in the County, as well as the far greater portion of its manufactures. The necessary consequence of these advantages are, that its population has greatly increased; its towns enlarged and beautified; and its waste lands, to a considerable extent, beneficially cultivated. In the middle and eastern parts of Cornwall, those benefits have been sparingly and partially scattered.

A History therefore of the West of Cornwall, free from the laborious task of poring over voluminous works, it is hoped will be found desirable to the antiquary, the stranger, or the inhabitant who wishes to have at one view the most interesting information his County affords, respecting its Antiquities, Mines, and general Commerce. These views have induced the Compiler to cull from the various publications on those subjects, an account of every thing remarkable within this Survey; which includes Truro, St. Ives, Land's End, and Lizard. In doing which, he has omitted all abstruse arguments or disputable points, being well aware that to the generality of readers they afford little or no entertainment.

The Compiler, from his own personal enquiries, and the kind assistance of his friends, has been enabled, in many instances, to correct the mistakes of some esteemed writers, and to give considerable original information;—and from a consciousness of having used his utmost exertions to deserve the approbation of a discerning and liberal public, he cheerfully submits to its decision the merits of his plan and the ability with which it has been executed.

Helston, September, 1819.

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THE
CIRCLE,
OR
HISTORICAL SURVEY.



ST. AGNES.

THIS parish extends through a mining district ; its subterranean caverns have furnished employment for ages to a multitude of inhabitants, whose numerous cottages are scattered over its surface. Prior to the formation of this parish, or to the erection of the church, there was an ancient free chapel dedicated to St. Agnes, which stood where the church now stands ; the church was erected by charitable contributions in 1484. The principal villages are, independently of the church town, Malow, where remains of a chapel are still visible, Mythian, and Stenclose. The church town, which is a name given, in Cornwall, to all villages in the vicinity of the church, contains many houses ; here is a weekly market on Thursday, in which all necessary commodities, except corn, are exposed to sale.

Among the natural phenomena of this parish, that of the peculiar strata of the hill on which St. Agnes Beacon is situated, are singularly remarkable. On the side of this hill or mountain, which may be ranked among the highest in Cornwall, the strata upon digging, have appeared in the following order :—The vegetable soil on the surface, and

the common rubble or broken matter under it, extend about six feet in depth. Immediately under this there is a fine white and yellow clay, of which tobacco-pipes were formerly made. This clay is about six feet in depth. Beneath this is a layer of rounded smooth pebbles, such as the beach presents to the eye, mixed with sea sand. Beneath these pebbles and sand, though nearly 100 fathoms above the sea, and about 300 fathoms distant from it, another layer or stratum of pebbles about five feet thick appears, in many of which grains of tin have been discovered. Under these stones, nothing but common spar stone, land, or earth is to be discovered for five or six feet deep; and beneath this the firm rock begins and continues through the whole descent.

There is an intrenchment which is nearly two miles in length extending from Porthchapel-Coom, to Breanick-Coom. This no doubt, was intended for the defence of St. Agnes Beacon and its rich cluster of mines. Within this fence a gold coin of Valentinian was ploughed up, from which it is supposed to be a work of the Romans.

Many monstrous stories are still preserved respecting the giant Bolster and St. Agnes, but of these it will be unnecessary to give any detailed account. In these romances, it is asserted, that St. Agnes escaped from her persecutors at Rome, found means to reach Cornwall, and landed at Perran. Travelling from thence to this parish, she was sorely tempted by the devil; and on turning to rebuke him, he was several times turned into a stone, from which he contrived to escape, leaving each time a moorstone in his place; which stones are still to be seen about a quarter of a mile asunder, in a straight line on the downs. On reaching her parish, she was compelled by the giant Bolster to pick all the stones off his estate, which was enclosed within

the before-mentioned intrenchment. This was accordingly done by her, and taken in her apron at three times, and carried to the summit of the hill where they still remain, forming the three barrows. Having accomplished this work, the giant next attempted to seduce her, and she pretended to comply with his wishes, upon condition that he would fill a hole that she should point out, with his blood. Accepting of this condition, she led him towards the cliff, and pointed out a hole, which, though to him unknown, actually opened to the sea below. At this hole he bled himself to death, when she tumbled him over the precipice. Being now in full possession of the district, she built a chapel near a well of most excellent water, the pavement of which she dyed with her own blood. This well possessed most miraculous virtues, and was formerly a place of great resort; but its reputation is now no more.

Polberro mine was worked in the year 1750; and a considerable part of the ore was so rich, that it needed neither pulverizing nor cleansing. Large rocks of tin of 664 pounds and upwards, which were so pure as to afford eleven and half for twenty, were taken to Calenick smelting house near Truro. Mr. Donnithorn who had the whole adventure, cleared at least, £40,000 by this mine.

Wheal Music, the adventurers of this mine laboured under many discouragements for a series of years; but by dint of inflexible perseverance, they have for some time past received liberal profit.

Wheal Towan has produced considerable quantities of copper ores, returning much profit to the adventurers; but the workings are now suspended, from the great expence required in order to raise the water, and the exhausted state of the mine.

East Pell and Great Pell are on the north of St. Agnes

Beacon ; these mines with Wheal Trevance, Wheal Kind, and some others of minor importance, occupy a large share of the high cliffs which skirt the Bristol Channel from St. Agnes pier to Port Towan, on the west. Immense quantities of tin have been raised from these mines, from time immemorial, yielding large sums of money to the adventurers ; but the lower parts having become much impoverished, and not able to defray the expence of steam-engines, the workings have been relinquished, and men are now employed only above the adit ; the profits of the adventurers are, however, considerable.

Wheal Park and Wheal Prosper, with some other adventures of less note, most of which are on the ancient dutchy of Cornwall. These mines being free from water charge, yield profit to the adventurers.

The Blue Hills ; under this denomination are included several mines occupying a considerable tract of country on the north of St. Agnes church town, the most celebrated of which were the Pink, Wheal Derrick, and Poulgeer. These three mines, whilst they continued to be worked as separate adventures, were justly famed for the tin which they produced ; the Pink, especially, was peculiarly *fragrant* to the old adventurers ; but those who are engaged in the concern at present, have laboured under difficulties too frequently found in mining ; but it is pleasing to say that they seem to have overcome many of the obstacles which impeded them, and that their future prospects are not discouraging.

Goonlaze is on the west of the Pink, and formerly produced much tin ; but is now only worked partially.

Polbreen, is near the church town, and appears to have been very fruitful at some former period.

Wheal Budnick, is situated near Trevalas house, and

though the working is now discontinued, it may be considered as a good mining speculation.

Wheal Coates, this mine is in the west division of St. Agnes, and has afforded large quantities of tin, with a handsome profit to the adventurers.

Grambler mine is near Port Towan ; nothing particular can at present be said of it.

Wheal Mythian, is in the east part of the parish. A steam-engine was placed here a few years since ; but the copper raised being insufficient to balance the expenditure, the adventure was relinquished.

Trenethick is on the east of Wheal Towan, and produced copper near the surface, but when a steam-engine was employed, in order to examine the lode deeper, it was found impoverished, and the workings were suspended.

Wheal Butson is on the south-east part of the parish, and like the former, yielded copper near the surface, but proved poor when worked deeper, and was therefore abandoned.

In the year 1632 an attempt was made to form a harbour at Trevauance Porth, for the promotion of trade, and the security of vessels ; the cliffs being bold and abrupt, and exposed to the violence of the northern storms. But this well-meant endeavour proved abortive. In 1684 another effort was made ; but this like the former, after a waste of considerable sums of money, was abandoned. In 1699 a third attempt was made, but a tremendous storm assailing the works in the year 1705, proved so destructive as to dishearten the undertakers ; and it was again abandoned. Unwilling however, to relinquish an undertaking so flattering to their hopes, though the place of so many disasters, it was again resumed in the year 1710, with more ardour than before, and on the principles that seemed to ensure

perpetuity. The foundation was laid in lime made from the lyas stone of Aberddaw in Wales. In this work Mr. Tonkin expended about £6000. After having stood nearly a century, and some parts becoming feeble, the work was again undertaken by a company of gentlemen in the year 1794, by whom a pier of moorstone was built at an expence of £10,000. From this place a considerable trade is carried on with Wales and Ireland. A pilchard fishery was established in the year 1802; but it has not in general been so productive as in many other places.

The manor of Mythian, which formerly belonged to the Winslades, was forfeited to the crown on the execution of John Winslade, who was concerned in Arundell's rebellion in the year 1549.

The justly celebrated Opie, the son of a carpenter, was born in this parish; but, notwithstanding his low birth, the genius he had for painting soon became known to Dr. Wolcot, who was so pleased with his juvenile talents that he took him under his care to London, where he so shone as to attain the rank of the first painter of his day. He died in the year 1807.

Mr. Nicholas Kent, of Mongoose, by his will bearing date 1688, bequeathed a dwelling house for the term of 499 years, to be divided into four habitations, each having a garden annexed, for the use of poor widows, charging his lands of Mongoose and Tereardrene with the constant repairs of the house; but no evidence appears that this charity was ever endowed.

The trustees of the Rev. John Eliot, who died in the year 1760, established a school; the endowment however, is no more than £5 per annum. Of late years a Sunday school has also been established, supported by voluntary subscriptions, and is attended by a numerous train of children.

Rosemundy seat is the only one in this parish deserving notice.

St. Agnes is situated near the Bristol channel, and about nine miles north-west of Truro; containing 6657 acres, 865 houses, and (in the year 1811*) 5024 inhabitants; in the hundred of Pyder.



ST. ANTHONY IN MENEAGE.

The whole extent of this parish is very inconsiderable; so that it is not without reason it is supposed to have been cut off from Manaccan, and raised into a separate parish on some such extraordinary occasion as recorded by tradition. It has been said, that soon after the Conquest, as some persons of rank and fortune were coming to England from Normandy, they were overtaken by a violent storm, from which they expected immediate destruction. In the midst of their distress, they directed their prayers to St. Anthony, and laid themselves under a solemn vow to erect a church to his memory, if he would condescend to save them from shipwreck; and that this church should be erected on the very spot where they should first get on shore. Driven by the tempest, they were conducted by a power fully equal to that which St. Anthony might be supposed to possess, into Gillan Harbour, and happily landed on that very spot where the church now stands. Such are the tales of tradition respecting the origin of St. Anthony church; and it appears that the materials with which the tower is built, and the situation which the church and tower occupy, are calculated to give sanction to this tradition.

* Throughout this publication we refer to the census of 1811.

The church is situated at the foot of a promontory called Little Dinas, about 160 feet from the sea, and nearly at high water, on a level with it. It is built with a species of very fine granite, such as this country is not known to produce, and which is said to have been imported from Normandy. The church may be said to have been erected on an island, from its being surrounded on the east, west, and south, by the sea, and on the north by the parish of Manaccan. Hence all those who inhabit the western side of the parish, must pass through Manaccan, and even near its church, in order to reach their own parish, unless they cross Gillan Harbour in boats, or wait till low water, to pass over the stones that are thrown into the channel for the accommodation of foot passengers.

Near this spot are the remains of two ancient intrenchments, known by the names of Great and Little Dennis or Dinas. These castles or fortifications were occupied during the civil wars in the seventeenth century, by the adherents of Charles, as posts necessary for the security of Helford Harbour; and like its more powerful neighbour Pendennis, Little Dennis withstood many formidable attacks of the parliamentary forces. But it was compelled at last to submit to the forces of Fairfax in 1646, after having seen the surrender of every fort in Cornwall, except Pendennis Castle. Little Dennis is a bold promontory, now converted into a warren. About half a mile to the west, is the village of Condurra, where is a field on the left-hand side of the road, in which were found a large quantity of Roman coins in a knapsack.

Small vessels may lie with great safety opposite St. Anthony church in a spacious pool; the river Helford is at this place nearly a mile wide.

In the church-yard is a well, which, from its peculiar

construction, is supposed to have been originally intended for a bath.

Roscreeg, the property of Mr. W. Morgan, according to Hals, gave name to a genteel family in this parish. Some of their descendants, now known by the name of Roskrige, still reside in St. Anthony, and sustain the rank of respectable yeomen. On this estate is Roscreeg Beacon, which affords one of the most commanding prospects in the south of Cornwall.

The only gentleman's seat in this parish is Bosahan, an elegant modern-built mansion, erected by the late Thomas Grylls, Esq. of Helston. Its situation is eligible and commanding, and it furnishes a pleasing view of the most diversified scenery.

Trewothick was for several generations the seat of the family of Tregose, and is now the property of John Borlase, Esq. of Helston.

The principal estate now belonging to the manor of Porthia Prior in St. Anthony, comprizes the ancient fort of Little Dennis, and nearly the whole of the church town and contiguous lands. Of this fort, Sir Vyell Vyvyan bart. of Trelowarren, is said to possess some manuscript accounts, which he has inherited from his ancestor, by whom it was commanded.

Among the public benefactors of this parish, Mr. Anthony Hosken of Lanne, appears the most conspicuous. This gentleman established a permanent annuity in the year 1743 of £4 per annum, towards paying a school-master or mistress, for teaching poor children of this parish to read and write.

St. Anthony is seven miles south-west from Falmouth, and ten miles from Helston ; containing 1268 acres, 38 houses, and 224 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier,

BREAGE.

The church town stands on the left about three miles on the road from Helston to Penzance. It is bounded on the north by Crowan, on the east by Sithney, on the south by the British Channel, and on the west by Germoe. Its name is uniformly admitted to have been derived from St. Breaca, a pious female, who visited this county from Ireland, at a period when Christianity had scarcely gained an ascendancy over Druidism. Having obtained a footing, she hastened to Pencair, a hill in the parish of Pembro, and came also to Trenwith, where the parish church stood, before it was removed to Pembro. Breaca having erected another church by transforming the former to a new position. The name of Pembro, indeed, is now lost, from a principle of inattention to the Cornish language, which has long been general. This therefore, is our present parish of Breage, the secular name of which appears to have been Pembro.

“St. Breaca thus settled near the beginning of that famous indent into the southern shore, so deeply scaped out by the working billows of the sea alone; so famous therefore for wrecks, from ships being drawn by the influx of the tide into it, and so infamous also for the conduct of the inhabitants towards the wrecked. This conduct probably attracted Breaca to the parish, to reform what is so hostile to every principle of Christianity, so brutal to the owners of ships or wares in danger of being lost, so barbarous to the men, women, or children, in the very act of perishing; and what still remains a strong brand upon the fronts of the parishioners in the eyes of all the other Cornish at present.”*

* Whitaker's Cathedral, Vol. I. p. 338.

The highest hill in Breage is at present denominated Tregoning Hill, from the principal house and estate upon it, once a place of very considerable importance, having a large building and a chapel adjoining it. On a part of this estate is a tenement called Castle Penlayre, running up to the summit of the hill, and there bordering upon a circular kind of fort at another part of Tregoning, extending about 100 yards in diameter, fenced by two walls of masonry, as lately appeared by digging, with a ditch between them wide enough for three men to stand abreast.

In this parish is the well known manor of Godolphin, which, through a series of ages belonged to an ancient family of that name who resided here. "From this family has sprung such a race of famous, flourishing, learned, valiant, and prudent men, who have served their prince and country in the several capacities of members of parliament, justices of the peace, deputy lieutenants, sheriffs, colonels, majors, captains, and other officers, both military and civil, as no other family in this county has afforded." *

In the days of Edward III. about 1330, these lands belonged to Sir John Lamburn of Lamburn, in Perransand, whose daughter and heir was married to one of the Arundells of Lanherne. It was by one of his posterity that these lands were sold to one Stephens, whose daughter and heir married John Nava, who was the first that took the name of Godolphin. The property thus sold to Stephens, was accompanied with a ridiculous condition, that seemed to perpetuate the ancient rights of the Arundells, in the following reserved rent payable to their manor of Lamburn. "That once a year for ever, the reeve of the

* Hals's Parochial History.

said manor should come to Godolphin, and there boldly enter the hall, jump upon the table or table-board, and stamp or bounce with his feet or club, to claim and give notice to the people of his approach, and then and there make proclamation aloud three times; O yes! O yes! O yes! I am the reeve of the manor of Lamburn in Perransand, come here to demand the old rent, duties, and customs, due to the lords of the said manor from the lands of Godolphin. Upon which notice, there is forthwith to be brought him 2s. 8d. in rent, a large quart of strong beer, a loaf of wheaten bread worth sixpence, and a cheese of like value; which the reeve having received, he shall drink of the beer, taste the bread and cheese in the place, and then depart, carrying with him the said rent, and the remainder of the viands, to the lords of the manor aforesaid." This claim on the Godolphin lands is still held by Sir John St. Aubyn, bart. as of his manor of Lamburn; but it is commuted by payment of a piece of beef.

The late mansion house was a quadrangular building, situated in a large park, and embosomed in woods. As a residence for a farmer, this house has undergone repairs and alterations in modern times; but its ancient splendour has totally disappeared, and the principal parts exhibit a heap of ruins. The elegant portico which was built by Francis Earl Godolphin, of white moorstone, brought from Tregoning Hill, had rooms over it that were never finished, and that now assist in swelling the triumphs of desolation.

On the manor of Pengersick is a small embattled tower, which was once united to an ancient castellated mansion, bearing like the manor the name of Pengersick. It is situated in a bottom, near a creek. The tower, which still remains, consists of three stories; to the summit of which there is a passage of winding stone steps, and from which

there is a pleasing but not a very extensive prospect. The walls of the ground floor are pierced with loopholes ; but many of the apartments are fallen in. Those which remain are used by a farmer for haylofts and granaries. On the wainscot of the upper story, which is curiously carved and painted, there are several quaint pieces of poetry, which, though now nearly effaced, contained some moral delineations. The two following specimens may serve to convey an idea of these almost obliterated compositions. Connected with the picture of a blind man carrying a lame man on his back, are these lines:—

“ The one nedith the other ys helpe.

*“ The lame wyche lacketh for to goo
Is borne upon the blinde is back,
So mutually betwien them twoo,
The one supplieth the other’s lack :
The blinde to laime doth lend his might,
The layme to blynde doth yeld his sight.”*

Under another picture, which represents the constant dropping of water from a rock, are the following lines, having the title of

PERSEVERANCE.

*“ What thing is harder than a rock ?
What softer is than water clear ?
Yet will the same with often drop
The hard rock pierce, as doth appear.
Even so no nothing so hard to attayne
But may be had with labour and payne.”*

This building and its various decorations are supposed to be about the age of Henry VIII. ; at the latter end of whose reign, the barton and manor were purchased by a

Mr. Milliton, who having slain a man, either through accident or design, immured himself in some part of this castle to avoid justice, during the remaining part of his life. And so effectually was he secured, that he not only escaped detection, but was unknown to every one besides a few confidential friends, until death discovered his retreat.

Besides the church town, the principal villages in this parish are Kenegy, Rinsey, Tregunno, Trescow, Trevervas, and Trew; but neither of them merits any particular description. Porthleven, which is partly in this parish, and partly in Sithney, will be described under the latter.

The principal mine in this parish is Wheal Vor; it has been wrought by two or three companies of adventurers before the present working, and yielded considerable profit; but on resuming the working by the present owners, the mine was found very poor. Yet the indefatigable exertions of Mr. John Gundry, the present manager and chief proprietor, by extending the levels and sinking the shafts, made discoveries to justify his working the mine to its present extensive scale; measuring in extent on the main lode, and regularly wrought for three quarters of a mile in length; occupying three draft engines, two steam whims, and two steam stamping mills, working eighty-four heads, besides several remote water stamping mills. And from the present appearance of the mine, the proprietors will reap considerable benefit, notwithstanding the great expence they have been at in prosecuting the workings. The exceeding rich courses of tin that have been discovered from time to time here are very remarkable. At one time was found a course of tin worth from £500 to £600 per fathom; and at several different times courses were discovered worth from £150 to £200 per fathom, £100 per

fathom, £90, £80, &c. Wheal Vor may be considered as a tin mine of the first magnitude, which may be seen from the account of the last year's proceeds, viz.—

1815. Christmas Quarter. Black Tin sold....	206,000 lbs.
1816. Lady Day. Ditto	341,000
Midsummer. Ditto	392,000
Michaelmas. Ditto	513,000

Total.....1,452,000 lbs.

Or 726 tons of tin ores, which produced 500 tons of fine tin.

It would be a piece of injustice to omit mentioning the benefit resulting from Woolf's machinery in this mine.

Wheal Breage mine is situated on the summit of Godolphin and Tregoning Hills, and has been for some years very productive of tin, but at present she has ceased working. Adjacent to which and Wheal Vor are Palladross Downs mine, Wheal Pengelly, Wheal Godolphin or the Great Work, Wheal Rowas, (a promising adventure), and several other small mines.



BUDOCK.

The parish of Budock, in which that of Falmouth was included, until the year 1663, is bounded on the north by Gluvias, on the east by Falmouth, on the south by the British Channel, and on the west by Mawnan. The church contains some sepulchral monuments of the Killigrew family, although their seat lies on the margin of the harbour.

Within the precincts of this parish, but closely connected with the town of Falmouth, is Green Bank, or Dunstanville Terrace. This is a long range of elegant buildings,

The manor of Treviddron was the property of the Vyvyan family, where they resided until they removed to Trelo-warren.

In the middle of the barton of Trou, on the summit of a hill, are vestiges of an ancient castle or intrenchment, in which is a hole leading to a cavern under ground, which in modern days no one has ventured to explore. It is probable it might be used as an arsenal or storehouse during the wars between Charles I. and the parliament.

For the instruction of the poor, a school has lately been instituted, under the management of trustees, who provide a house, and pay eight guineas per annum to a master, for teaching seven poor boys to read.

In this parish is a circle of nineteen upright stones called *Dance Mein*, or *The Merry Maidens*, from the whimsical tradition that nineteen young women were thus transformed for dancing on the sabbath-day.

St. Burien is replete with objects of curiosity. The summits and sides of the eminences, and the bottoms of the vallies, are mostly covered with large masses of granite, either collected together, or scattered singly. Among these are several cairns, circles, cromlehs, logan-stones, and castles. The inquisitive antiquary may here examine an interesting variety of British monuments, and become acquainted with their peculiar shape and character.

St. Burien* contains 6274 acres, 217 houses, and 1188 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.

* Mr. Polwhele says "the inhabitants of St. Berian both men and women exhibit the finest specimens of Cornish strength and beauty. The broad and muscular outline of the male, and the luxuriant contour of the female form, here evince that the climate, food, or employment of the people are highly conducive to the maturation and perfection of the human figure."

CAMBORNE.

This parish is situated about four miles west of Redruth. Its name, which is neither disgraced nor dignified with the appellation of saint, is said to have been derived from a famous well that was formerly in high repute in this district, known by the name of Cam-burne Well. To this sacred fountain many of the young and aged formerly resorted, to acquire sanctity from its celebrated virtues. But its reputation has been long on the decline, and its magical excellencies are only known from the tales of tradition, or the records of superstition.

Camborne is bounded on the north by Illogan, on the east by Redruth, on the south by Gwinear, and on the west by Crowan. The town has of late years started into much consideration ; and being situated in the heart of a mining district, its population and trade may be expected to increase in proportion to the prosperity of the mines, and the current value of their treasures. As a growing rival to Redruth, it is already become a post and a market town. Its market, which is considerable, was established in 1802. Its commodious market-house was erected at the expence of Lord de Dunstanville. It has also four fairs for cattle, which are held in the church town, on March 7, Whitsun Tuesday, June 29, and on the second Tuesday in November. Besides the church town the principal villages are Berippa, Penpons, Trewithian, and Tucking Mill. But in almost every part, its surface is thickly sown with cottages belonging to the miners.

On the northern declivity of that ridge of granite, which stretches from the vicinity of Redruth towards the western extremity of the county, there is a regular line of copper mines distributed over a vast tract of country. Among

these there are several known by the name of "The Camborne Mines," from their being chiefly situated in this parish. Some of these have been working for several generations, by which means having descended to a considerable depth, they are now kept open at a vast increase of expence.

The ore of Wheal Gons and Stray-Park is chiefly of the yellow kind, and its richness corresponds with the brilliancy of its appearance. The lodes however, vary considerably in their dimensions, some being twelve feet wide, and others scarcely as many inches.

The celebrated mine of Dolcoath lies about three miles west from Carnbre; and in its complicated machinery and workings, it suggests a vast idea of what the human powers, when muscular energy and scientific intellect combine, are capable of accomplishing, through years of unremitting perseverance. In this mine every thing is gigantic; and the mind is bewildered in a chaos of sublime magnificence, in attempting to concentrate in one point a comprehensive view of its various phenomena. The workings of this mine extend upwards of a mile in length; but the breadth is irregular. This tract of country is intersected with innumerable shafts, most of which are connected together by some subterranean passages, by which the earth is eaten into a kind of honeycomb at the depth from the surface, of 1200 feet. On this mine there are eight engines, five to raise the rubbish and ore, and three to drain the extensive bottom of the water which is constantly collecting. Among these engines, the largest is built upon the principle of Bolton and Watts, on a scale that is stupendous; but the machinery is so ingeniously contrived, that diversified operations are performed with rapidity and ease. It accomplishes the labour of 200 horses, by lifting an

enormous weight in the vast column of water that is moved at every stroke, in addition to fifty gallons which are discharged seven times in every minute.

The number of persons employed on this mine, including women and children, are about 1600. The quantity of copper extracted from the ore that is raised every month, amounts to between sixty and seventy tons, to which may be added a small quantity of tin. In former years this mine produced a small portion of cobalt. The largest sum that the adventurers ever realized in one month, during fifty years, was £7040.

The matrix in which the ore of Dolcoath is embedded, is quartz, accompanied with chlorite and killas.

Cook's Kitchen was formerly for a long time one of the most productive mines in Cornwall; and during the aggregate of ten years, which terminated with the last century, its real profits amounted to £100,000. Since that period, as its workings have gradually become deeper, the expence has regularly increased; and the same quantity of ore, if sold at the same price as formerly, will leave the actual profits in a diminished state. The depth of this mine in some parts is at present nearly 200 fathoms. Although Cook's Kitchen yields ore of different sorts, its richest and most productive is that of the solid grey kind. Some of this grey ore is worth £30 per ton, and occasionally 100 tons of ore will produce ninety tons of copper. When this metal is extracted, the remainder is sulphur mixed with arsenic and iron. In this extensive mine, as well as in Dolcoath, there are many lodes, the magnitudes of which bear only a small proportion to one another. The long celebrated "great north lode" of Cook's Kitchen, is in some places fifty feet wide, while in others it is no more than six; and consequently, its produce must vary in pro-

portion to the dimensions that are exposed to view. Among the apparatus for draining it of water, and facilitating its workings, Cook's Kitchen has three very large overshot water-wheels, of which the respective diameters are 42, 48, and 54 feet. The largest of these enormous wheels is under-ground; and consequently this and all its appendages are concealed from the light of day. This subterranean machinery rarely fails to strike with wonder and admiration, such visitors as descend into these gloomy abodes.

Tin Croft, which is about 130 fathoms deep, produces a vast quantity of copper ore, and a small portion of tin. But as its workings are less extensive than those of Dolcoath and Cook's Kitchen, its expences are comparatively diminutive. Its profits therefore, have been for many years proportionably equal to any mine in the county.

The mines of Dolcoath, Cook's Kitchen, and Tin Croft, all lie on the same lodes, which extend into their respective jurisdiction. These run parallel with the granite ridge already noticed; but what is remarkably singular, they do not incline in the same direction. In all these mines the iron stone or blue elvan is generally found, at a certain depth in their descent. This stone is so exceedingly hard, that it has been deemed equal to cast iron; and in proportion to the thickness of the stratum which it makes, the progress of the miners is slow, the difficulty of breaking it great, and the expence of working it considerable. This elvan consists chiefly of quartz and schoerl, and sometimes it is found on the surface of the ground.

Several other mines may be denominated from Camborne parish, some of which are productive, while others are much indebted to the adventurers. The mines in this district, as well as in others, submit to the vicissitudes which the price of their produce occasions. Some also

that may be considered as belonging to this parish, extend their workings into other parishes; so that an exclusive right cannot be claimed by any boundaries of parochial territory. In all these mining adventures the expence is certain, but the profits are too doubtful to submit to any regular estimation.

At Dolcoath mine, about two miles to the westward of Redruth, a stranger may be gratified at one view with a complete idea of the singular and interesting scenery peculiar to mining. The mine being situate on the brow of a hill, and reaching to an immense extent, the spectator will behold steam-engines, water-wheels, horse-whims, stamping-mills, &c. &c. all in full activity; the effect of which is not a little heightened by the majestic elevation and imposing silence of the venerable Carnbre.

In a tenement called Carwynen, in this parish, there is a cromleh; but it has nothing remarkable to merit a particular description. It has three supporters, which enclose an area five feet three inches wide, and seven feet long.

A stone which has an equal claim to be reckoned among the antiques of this county, is placed against the wall of the church. This is a flat stone of an oblong square, about three feet long, and two feet wide. Near the margin there is a running wreath, by which the following inscription is enclosed:—

LEVIUT JUSIT HEC ALTARE PRO ANIMA SUA.

This inscription requires prayers to be said for the soul of that man whose name it bears. From the name itself *Leviut*, it being Cornish for pilot or sailor, nothing can be inferred, that will serve to inform us whose soul it is that required an interest in the prayers of the passengers.

In this parish the remains of two ancient encampments are still visible ; one of these is on the tenement of Tregear, and the other on the barton of Drym.

The church is a handsome building, and from the appearance of its architecture, it was probably erected towards the conclusion of the fifteenth century. It has a nave and side aisles, with clustered pillars, and obtusely peaked arches. The capitals of the pillars are decorated with foliage in a manner that still distinguishes many of our Cornish churches. The pulpit is much ornamented with carvings, among which are many emblems of the Crucifixion, and to these are joined the royal arms of England. This appears to have been done about the time of building the church. Within this church there are several memorials for the family of Pendarves. There is a bust of Sir William in armour, on the head of which is a flowing peruke. The altar-piece, which is exceedingly magnificent, is of Sienna marble. This was erected in the year 1761, at the expence of Samuel Percival, Esq. whose lady brought to him the inheritance of Pendarves.

By Mrs. Grace Percival, the lady of the above Samuel Percival, Esq. a school was founded for the instruction of twelve boys and eight girls, in reading, writing, and arithmetic. This school is at Penpons, and the endowment consists of a house and twenty guineas per annum. Her munificence has also provided a temporary relief for widows and orphan children, which is annually distributed on Old Christmas Day. The Wesleyan Methodists have a large and elegant meeting-house here, and a respectable congregation ; they have also meeting-houses in several parts of this parish.

On the tenement of Trewn, or Treun, Dr. Borlase men-

tions the walls of an ancient chapel, near a well called Fentoner, much noticed for the medicinal qualities of its waters. On the manor of Treslothan there are some remains of an ancient chapel.

Menadarva, though now a farm house, was in early times a seat of the Arundells, descended from the Arundells of Trerice. To this branch of that family, it was given, according to Hals, by John Arundell, Esq. of Trerice, commonly called John Tilbury, because he was posted at this place under queen Elizabeth, to oppose the Spanish Armada in 1588. This bequest ran in the following words:—"I give and bequeath to my natural son John Arundell, my manor and barton of Menadarva in Camborne, and to his heirs lawfully begotten for ever." The last male heir (as was supposed) of this family dying without issue, his sisters on his demise took possession of this lordship, and on their marriages conveyed it to their respective husbands, who remained in the quiet enjoyment of their portions for many years. It happened however, that a younger brother of these ladies, who had taken up his abode in Spain as a merchant, and who was known to be dead, and supposed to have left no issue, had actually left an infant son. This child who passed his minority in Spain, without knowing any thing of his father's connexions in England, visited this country when he came of age; and, on reaching Cornwall, discovered this property, to which the laws of England gave him an undeniable right. He set up his claim to the manor and barton of Menadarva, as the heir at law, and brought on a trial at Launceston assizes. In this trial it appeared, on the oath of some Spanish merchants, that he was the legitimate son of Arundell, who died in Spain. In consequence of which a verdict was obtained in his favour, and at the time

when Hals wrote, he was in the actual possession of the inheritance.

Pendarves, the seat of E. W. Pendarves, Esq. is a handsome modern building, having two fronts, which consist of squared granite. It is erected on a pleasing eminence, which commands an extensive view over the western part of the county. The southern front overlooks a large piece of artificial water, which considerably adds to the elegance of the whole.

In a field near Pendarves, is a cromlech, consisting of three upright stones, and another covering them.

Rosewarne, which is near Camborne town, was the seat of the late William Harris, Esq. The situation of the house is not elevated, and consequently the prospects from it are not extensive; but its local beauties amply compensate for these deficiencies. The gardens and walks with which the house is surrounded, exhibit fertility in her neatest attire. The house is rather conveniently large, than magnificently spacious; but its accommodations, that are adapted to every necessary purpose, render it a delightful habitation for such as prefer retirement and the charms of nature, to the artificial grandeur of tumultuous life.

In the workhouse belonging to this parish, which is situated in the vicinity of the town, a murder was committed about four years since, by an insane man, attended with circumstances of peculiar barbarity. The poor man, who had for some time been deranged, was chained in a room, and a woman appointed by the parish to attend upon him. For some time they lived together in peace. One evening however, in the depth of winter, something occurred which it is supposed occasioned a quarrel between them; when the woman being within his reach, he gave her a blow with some instrument, which he repeated until

she expired. Alarmed at what he had done, his next contrivance was to conceal the body ; and to do this no other means were in his power but to consume it with fire. Having taken this horrid resolution, he lighted up a funeral pile with some coals that were within his reach, to which he added every thing that could feed the flame ; and before the morning he had actually reduced it to ashes. The neighbours on the approach of daylight, were astonished at the extraordinary smell, which directed them to the fatal spot. On breaking open the door, the woman was not to be found ; and the only reply they could obtain from the lunatic, was, that “ Molly was gone to ashes.” Of this they discovered an enormous heap, in which were some fragments of bones, that on being touched turned to dust. The unhappy lunatic has since been removed to Bodmin Gaol, where he still continues, exhibiting an appearance that places human nature in its lowest state of pitiable degradation,

Camborne is distant twelve miles west-south-west from Truro ; contains 5933 acres, 887 houses, and about 5000 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Penwith.

CONSTANTINE.

This parish is about five miles nearly east from Helston, and about the same distance south-west from Penryn. It is bounded on the north by Stithians, on the east by Mabe and Budock, on the south by Helford Harbour and Mawan, and on the west by Wendron. On the origin of its present name, many opinions have been entertained. Hals, says, that the titular guardian of this church is the emperor Constantine, the first emperor in the world that professed Christianity. But Mr. Whitaker, asserts that the name

Constantine is expressly mentioned in Doomsday, and that it was not the emperor of Rome, but a king of Cornwall, from whom this church was nominated.

Of this Constantine, the brief history is as follows:—He succeeded Arthur about the year 547, whose death he revenged by murdering two innocent youths of royal blood, (supposed to be the sons of Mordred,) at the altar. For this deed of cruelty, Gildas describes him as “the tyrannical whelp of an impure Danmonian lioness.” After this deed, having lost his wife and children, he is said to have grown weary of the world, to have resigned his right of dominion, to have turned monk, and after preaching the Gospel to the Scots, to have suffered martyrdom in Scotland; after which, he was canonized as a saint. The particular time he suffered, is involved in some obscurity; but the parish feast is on the nearest Sunday to the 11th of March, which coincides with the martyrology cited by Archbishop Usher. His issue are said to have continued dukes or earls of Cornwall a considerable time after his decease.

In common conversation, this parish is frequently called Cun-sten-ton; which signifies wood-stone-town, a place heretofore notable for woods and stones.

In the village called Mên, there is a stone of so singular a form, that it evidently appears to have been shaped by art. But as it cannot be conceived to suit any purpose, either civil, military, or domestic, the general and only rational conclusion is, that it was originally one of those stone deities, or rock idols, to which the ancient Druids paid their homage and adoration. The stone in question strongly resembles the Greek letter Omega, and has somewhat the appearance of a large cap with a narrow brim, upon which it rests, having the supposed concave part concealed within. In its narrowest part, immediately above

the brim, around which the band may be supposed to be tied, this stone is thirty feet in circumference; and from its bottom to its summit, its height is eleven feet. The ground adjacent is rather uneven, and some indistinct ridges give a faint imitation that walls or houses once existed near it. On some other rocks which lie at no great distance from this singular stone, some signs of workmanship are still to be seen; and from the appearance which they exhibit, it seems as though these were originally designed to be cut in imitation of it, and to be formed after the model of the large one, which appears to have been finished.

In the same village there is another singular stone which merits some description. It is a large orbicular rock, supported by two stones, between which there is a passage, and from this circumstance it derives its name. To a rock of magnitude, thus resting on supporters, between which a passage is left, the common name that is given, is *Tolmen*, a word which signifies the *Hole-Stone*, or *Holed-Stone*. The Tolmen which is in this parish, bears some distant resemblance to an egg, when viewed at a distance; but on a nearer inspection the similitude disappears. This stone rests on its side, on two supporters which appear to touch it only with their projected points. The passage which lies between these supporters, and beneath the rock which rests upon them, is about three feet high and as many wide, so that a man may creep through it without any difficulty.

This rock, which lies longitudinally due north and south, measures in its longest diameter about thirty-three feet, in its widest part from east to west about eighteen feet six inches, in depth at its greatest diameter about fourteen feet six inches, in circumference ninety-seven feet, and it con-

tains at least 750 tons of stone. The top of which is like an imperfect or mutilated honey-comb, into basons ; one much larger than the rest is at the south end, about seven feet long ; another at the north, about five ; the rest smaller, the sides and shape irregular.

Dr. Borlase says, "the Tolmen must be taken notice of as the most astonishing piece of this kind of fret-work, which perhaps the world affords. The whole surface is bespread entirely with basons, most of which supply and run into two large ones, in comparison of the rest, one at the south end, another at the north ; but where the convexity of this vast body of stone shelved off from the middle of its top towards its sides, there are many little rills or channels (five in number) cut in the brim of the Tolmen to discharge what the basons next the edge did contain ; and underneath a great number of basons are cut into the natural karne, as if to preserve from waste the precious liquor as it fell."*

From the top of this rock, which may be ascended by a ladder, the Edystone lighthouse has been seen.

At a place called Bonallack, and also at Budock Vean, there are some vestiges of ancient chapels ; but by whom they were erected, or when they were deserted, we have no means of ascertaining.

At Bosawen there is a subterranean passage called Piskey-Hall ; it is about thirty feet long, five feet wide, and six high ; the walls and coverings are of rude stone.

The principal villages in this parish, exclusively of the church town, are Calmanjack, Dergon, and Gweek. This latter is a port, and is a place of considerable trade. It is frequented by merchant vessels through Helford Harbour,

* Borlase's Antiquities, p. 354.

and from it the borough of Helston and adjacent country derive a great proportion of their supplies of coals, timber, iron, lime, and every other article for building. From this parish great quantities of granite have been exported to different parts of the kingdom for public buildings, and of late years it is become a trade of great importance.

About a mile below Gweek the Heyl is joined by Mawgan Creek on the south, and about three miles further by that of Kestel or Helford. At its mouth which is still about three miles distant, it is joined by another creek called Gillan. Into this creek the river Durra, which rises between Manaccan and St. Anthony, empties itself. On the northern side of Helford Harbour, the most inland creeks are those of Polpenwith or Polperre, and Polwhevel, running towards Constantine church. About a mile thence there is another creek called Chiclow, or Calamansack. The harbour itself, which is rather spacious than secure, is about a mile wide at its mouth; and in some places the water is deep enough for vessels of 200 tons burden. In almost any other situation than within a few miles of Falmouth, this harbour with all its inconveniences, would be in high repute. But its advantages and excellencies are almost totally overlooked, through the close vicinity and decided superiority of one of the most noble harbours in England.

In this harbour great quantities of herrings have been taken of late years.

Merthen, on which were formerly a park and a stately mansion, is now a respectable farm house. To this estate is attached the oystering, and for ages past the Helford oysters have been justly considered superior to any others. After supplying Truro, Falmouth, Penryn, St. Ives, Helston, and its neighbourhood, a sufficient quantity of oysters is

left to supply every other demand. Many cargoes are sent annually to London, and other parts of the kingdom.

While Carwythenack was in the possession of the Chapmans, an instance of extraordinary preservation occurred to one of that family in the reign of William III. of which the following is the substance.—Mr. Chapman, in company with his servant, being about to return one night to his own house from Redruth, had to pass several tin mines. Aware of his perilous situation, as the weather was dark, he alighted from his horse, the better to find out his way ; but unfortunately his foot slipped, and he was precipitated into a tin shaft. His horse started back and escaped. He fell fifteen fathoms perpendicularly, and pitched on a projection of ground, occasioned by a drift that had been made in the workings ; and in this place recovered his senses, which had been partly lost by the rapidity and violence of his fall. He soon discovered that he had not reached the bottom, which, from the falling fragments he could distinctly perceive, contained much water, at no great distance below him. On groping around, he also found that his situation was dangerous in the extreme ; and that his only hope of deliverance depended on his securing the point of ground on which he had providentially fallen. To do this he rested his back against one side, and his feet against the other, and then drove his sword up to the hilt into the side of the shaft, by which he held to render himself more secure. In this horrible situation he remained, to wait until either his friends or death should remove him from his melancholy dungeon, or a sensibility of his sufferings.

The servant in the meanwhile, who had gone before his master, to grope out the way, arrived home, supposing that he had gone home by a different route ; but as the family

could give no account of him, he began to suspect that his master had fallen down a shaft; and early the next morning hasted towards Redruth, to ascertain the fact. Arriving near the fatal spot, he discovered that some tanners had got the horse, having found it grazing on the common. Being now fully convinced that his suspicions were but too well founded, he engaged some men to go with him and search every shaft for the body. They searched nearly the whole day; when, just as they were about to abandon their hopes of recovering the body, one of the company returned from an excursion he had been making, and reported that at a particular spot he heard something like a human voice from under-ground. To this spot they instantly repaired; and hearing that he was still alive, a tanner descended with a light, and fastened a rope round Mr. Chapman's body, by which he was drawn up to the surface; when, to the astonishment of all, no bone was broken, and the bruises he had received were trifling. He had continued in this pit seventeen hours; but if he had not fallen on the ground on which he rested, or had afterwards let go his hold, he must have plunged into the water, and have been inevitably drowned. After this, Mr. Chapman lived several years.

Carwythenack is now the property and seat of W. R. Hill, Esq. the buildings and gardens, have been greatly improved, which makes it a very desirable residence.

Trewardreval, an ancient building, is now the seat of Charles Scott, Esq.

Bonallack, or Bonathlake, was formerly the seat of a family of that name. It is now the property of the Rev. Richard Gerveys Grylls. Of the ancient buildings, the old Gothic hall still remains with its lofty arched roof, screen, and buttery hatch; some armorial bearings in stained glass also decorate the windows; but the interior

is in a very dilapidated state. It is used by the farmer as a lumber room. Some vestiges of the old chapel, together with its baptismal font, still remain; and the ground behind still retains the name of burying ground.

Trevassack is the property of Stephen Usticke, Esq.

Budock Vean is the property and occasional residence of Francis Pender, Esq.

Bosvathack is the residence of Mrs. Moor.

Trethowsan was anciently the seat of a family of that name, but is now the property of Sir Vyell Vyvyan, bart.

Boswarran is a neat modern built house, the residence of Mrs. Boulderson.

Trenarth is the property of T. Nicholls, Esq.

The only monuments in the church, worth notice, are one for Richard Gerveys, Esq. dated 1574, and another for John Pendarves, Esq. dated 1616.

Near the church town is Wheal Vyvyan tin mine, and although she has been attempted several times without success, there is now some probability of her making a profitable adventure.

Constantine contains 6883 acres, 267 houses, and 1327 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.

CROWAN:

This parish is about four miles nearly south from Camborne, and five nearly north from the borough of Helston. On its northern side it is bounded by Camborne, on its eastern by Wendron, on the south by Sithney, and on the west by St. Erth.

According to Mr. Whitaker, this parish derived its name from Crewenna, a female saint from Ireland, who accompanied Bréaca, Sinnin, and Germochus into this county,

about the middle of the sixth century. Crewenna, who landed near Hayle, is supposed to have settled in that district which now bears her name in the parish of Crowan.

The principal villages in this parish, besides the church town, are Praise-an-beeble, Curgenwen, Drym, Trethannas, and Trevool; but these contain nothing, either in magnitude or singularity, to demand any particular notice.

The manors of Hellegan and Clowance belonged at a very early period to a family called Hellegan, who had their residence probably at both places. Hellegan signifies the hall placed on the downs; Clowance signifies the valley of moorstones. From this family both Hellegan and Clowance became the property of Geoffrey St. Aubyn, who in the reign of Richard II. married the heiress of Piers Key mell, from which period to the present time this property has been invariably possessed by the St. Aubyn family.

This ancient and respectable family first came into England with William the Conqueror in 1066, and took up their principal abode in Somerset and Devon. But Geoffrey St. Aubyn on his marriage with Elizabeth, heiress of Key mell, became an inhabitant of Cornwall; in which county his descendants have ever since resided. Sir John St. Aubyn, the eighth in descent from Geoffrey, was created a baronet in the year 1671. He was great great grandfather of Sir John St. Aubyn, bart. the present proprietor. This famous family, which was first denominated from Mount Seyntaubyn in Normandy, after their establishment in this country, formed alliances by marriages in their descent, with the several families of Key mell, Coleshill, Whittington, Grenvill, Mallet, Godolphin, Jenkin, Trenowth, De la Haye, and Morrice.

The grandfather of the present Sir John St. Aubyn, who

represented this county in parliament, has rendered his name memorable by his eloquence and independence. Sir Robert Walpole is said to have observed of this celebrated statesman, "I know the price of every member, except the little Cornish baronet." It is to the exertions of this patriotic baronet, that the mines in Cornwall are indebted for the debenture on coals.

Whatever might have been the condition of Clowance with regard to wood, in the early periods of its history, it is certain that Sir John St. Aubyn, who became possessed of it about the year 1723, found it almost naked, and totally bereaved of its plantations. To supply this deficiency, he applied himself to the cultivation of this important article ; and it is to his exertions and industry, that Cornwall is indebted for the introduction of the plane-tree. At his death he left his newly raised plantation in a flourishing condition ; and by the present baronet completion seems to be given to what his ancestor left unfinished. By the successive proprietors of Clowance, during the last century, its woodland scenery has been raised to a state of high respectability ; and by its present proprietor some additional buildings have been erected, and his judicious alterations have most considerably improved the whole domain. At present Clowance furnishes an elegant and pleasant retreat, in the midst of a dreary district. The park is large, and surrounded by a high stone wall, erected by the present possessor. The pleasure grounds within its large circumference, are rendered singularly delightful in this unsheltered part of the country, by the abundance of spreading trees which shade its meandering walks. The house that was naked about a century since, now appears embosomed in a wood. Among the pictures that adorn Clowance house, there are several of

curiosity and value; and the vast number of rare and singular prints, which are collected in port folios, strikingly characterize the taste and judgment of the possessor. But whatever beauties Clowance may possess, its charms have not been sufficiently attractive to ensure the residence of its owner. For many years past Sir John St. Aubyn has nearly forsaken Cornwall; and his occasional visits are more transient than heretofore. This absence seems to furnish a presage, that the period is not remote when the name of St. Aubyn will be unknown in Cornwall.

On the manor of Binnerton, there was formerly an ancient chapel.

A curious spot denominated Hang-man's Barrow, is situated on the barton of Bolitho.

Of the mines in this parish, the most important at present are, the consolidated mines of Crenver, Oatfield, and Wheal Abraham. These have been working with little or no intermission nearly thirty years; and for their extent, depth, produce, and improvements in their machinery, they rival the foremost of any in the county. Taken in one combined view, their workings are more than a mile in length. The depth of the mine called Oatfield is 237 fathoms, and the others exceed 220 fathoms. From these consolidated mines the water is raised by the vast powers of five large steam-engines; which, for economy of working are equal, if not superior to any that have been erected. These are assisted by two large water-engines. The labourers of every description employed on these mines are about 1500; and the current expences of working, including the lord's dues, wages and materials, amount to about £5,900 per month.

In this extensive parish, there are several large mines besides those denominated The Consolidated Mines; Wheal

Sarah, Binner Downs,* Wheal Clowance, Wheal Treasury, and Godolphin Bridge. The two first of these which are very extensive copper mines, are likely to be resumed, and promise to amply remunerate the adventurers for any expence which may be expended in prosecuting them. Wheal Clowance promises from fresh exertions to make a good mine. Wheal Treasury and Godolphin Bridge are at present idle; but should the spirit of mining so move as to resume the workings of these extensive and very valuable adventures, from the report of experienced miners, there is not a doubt but the adventurers would soon be reimbursed their expence. The shafts are from 100 to 120 fathoms in depth; and in former years they have been exceedingly productive. Godolphin Bridge was discontinued from a dispute between the lord and adventurers about the dues.

In descending from the surface to the lower extremity of these workings, the soil and strata have been found in the following proportions and succession. From three to six feet in depth, the bed on the surface is inclined to clay; beneath which is a stratum of killas of various thickness, with an inclination in general to the north-east. Below this is found a stratum of grey elvan, frequently called the iron stone from its excessive hardness, which varies in depth from two to eighteen feet. Beneath this the common rock descends without any variation. In the eastern part of this parish the stratum is composed of growan or decomposed granite.

On the night of August 21, 1806, a tremendous flood, supposed to have been occasioned by a water-spout, fell

* From this mine an ancestor of the Lemon family gained a considerable sum of money.

upon the high lands of this parish, and deluged the plains and vallies below. This terrible inundation, in its descent entered into a valley, in which the adit from the Consolidated Mines discharges its water. In this valley a river was instantly formed about twenty yards in breadth, which continued for several hours. In its progress it broke into one of the adit shafts, and descended into the mine; by which means, within the short space of fifteen minutes, Wheal Abraham was filled with fifty fathoms of water. By this melancholy accident, seven men were drowned; and the remainder, amounting to about fifty, escaped with the utmost difficulty.

On the tenement of Tregear some remains of an ancient encampment are still visible; and on the barton of Drym are the vestiges of another, apparently of equally remote antiquity.

In the church there are several memorials of the St. Aubyn family.

About the year 1730, a charity school in this parish was endowed with the interest of £100 by the St. Aubyn family; and lately a school-room has been erected near the church town, at the expence of Sir John St. Aubyn, capable of containing 200 children. This is now conducted on the plan of Mr. Lancaster.

Crowan contains 6742 acres, 478 houses, and 3021 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



CURY.

This parish lies about five miles from Helston, is bounded on the northern side by Mawgan, on its eastern by St. Martins, on its southern by Mullion, and on its western by Gunwalloe.

Cury is a daughter church to Breage, although their lands are not even contiguous; and both are held under the same presentation.

Bochym in the days of Henry VIII. belonged to John Winslade, who was executed for joining in the rebellion raised by Arundell in 1549. It is now the property of Thomas Hartley, Esq.

Bonython is the property of T. Hartley, Esq.

Polwin seat is occasionally visited by John Borlase Esq.

In the doorway of the church is a semicircular arch with Saxon mouldings; and some ancient carvings of Scripture subjects in alabaster, were lately discovered within. These appear to have been originally painted and gilded with much care; but at present they are so much defaced, as to leave but an imperfect memorial of their original design.

Cury contains 2673 acres, 73 houses, and 347 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



ST. EARTH.

This parish is situated on the banks of the river Hayle, about seven miles from Penzance, five from St. Ives, and four from Marazion. St. Earth Bridge, (of three stone arches, and a raised causeway well walled on each side, reaching across the valley,) says Leland was erected about 200 years prior to his time, and that large ships came up to it before it was choked by sand. If this supposition be correct, the bridge must have been erected more than 400 years.

The valley above the bridge has been much raised by the sand and earth washed down from the hills and mines; and the haven below, has suffered the same misfortune,

from the sands of the northern sea, so that lighters only come within a mile of the bridge. Here the land of Cornwall is at its narrowest dimension ; so that from the full sea-mark at Hayle on the north sea, to the full sea-mark at Marazion in Mount's Bay on the south sea, the distance is but three miles. From St. Erth the Hayle bears directly north, spreading an area of sand, of half a mile wide at a medium, and two miles long, but navigable only in the channel of the river, which admits small vessels a mile inward from the sea under the village of Lelant. Near its mouth, the Hayle is joined by a brook from the east, which under Phillack church, makes a branch of this haven for ships of 130 tons. The sea has not only almost filled this harbour with sand, but forms a bar also at its mouth, over which ships of 100 and 130 tons only can come in at the height of spring tide ; and the bed of the whole is so raised, that it admits the tide in only six hours in twelve.

Some small portions of the ancient mansion of Treilisick still remain, and these are fitted up for the residence of a farmer.

Trewinnard seat is occasionally occupied by Sir Christopher Hawkins, bart. the proprietor.

Tredrea is the property of Davies Giddy, Esq. M. P. who lately took the name of Gilbert.

At Porthcullumb, there are some remains of an ancient chapel ; and a little above the vicarage house, is a circular double intrenchment called Carhangives.

In the church-yard there are some memorials of the family of Davies. The south aisle of the church is called Trewinnard's aisle.

Hayle Foundery. At this place Mr. Henry Harvey carries on a very extensive iron foundery, also a timber and

coal trade. From the foundery a proportion of the heavy castings for engine work and all other materials for the mines, are obtained. A great extent of country is also supplied with timber, coals, and iron.

Near Tredrea, some curious machinery are erected for the purpose of rolling sheets of copper, and drawing it into bars. The whole is worked with water; and the powers that are called into action, are astonishingly great and surprisingly diversified. A fuller description of the various operations of this machinery are detailed under the head copper.

Wheal Squire tin and copper mine is productive. There are other mines in this parish of minor importance.

There is a charity at St. Erth, endowed with a house and £5 19s. 4d. per annum. Of the principal whence this income arises, £100 was given in 1754 by the Rev. Thomas Ralph, of Ingatestone in Essex, to be laid out at the discretion of Mr. Collins, vicar of St. Erth, and Christopher Hawkins, Esq. In fitting up a school-house, £16 of the principal was soon expended, but to prevent the annual income from being diminished, Mr. Hawkins bequeathed by his will another £100.

St. Erth contains 3791 acres, 246 houses, and 1317 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



FALMOUTH.

Falmouth, a large and flourishing sea port, contiguous to which is one of the most commodious harbours in England, lies in the deanery and east division of the hundred of Kirrier. It is somewhat remarkable, that there is no town in Cornwall of any magnitude, of more modern date than Falmouth, and no harbour in England of greater

celebrity in the annals of antiquity. The harbour of Valemouth has been famous all over Europe, and well known even in some parts of Asia, ever since this island has been known to the commercial world, although it has been but darkly distinguished by the Greeks and Romans, under diversified appellations.

“The harbour is accordingly denominated by Ptolemy, the mouth of the Cenia, the Fal so called then, and actually having upon it, the ancient town Cenia, the present Tre-gony. The Cornish name of the harbour, therefore, was in all probability Port Geney, as Tre-geney (pronounced Tregney) is the castle on the Cenia. But the harbour is better known to the English, from the numerous advantages which it enjoys, in the narrow divided avenue into it, in the broad bosom which it displays within, in the many creeks which run up into the land from it, in the general depth of water through all, and in the general security of all from winds, than any other point in the whole compass of Cornwall, I believe through all the periods of our history. Just such is the case with Milford Haven at present. That has therefore borne so long the English appellation of Falmouth, and this of Milford Haven, as to have lost all traces, all memory of their Cornish or their Welsh names.”

On the western side of the harbour stands Pendennis Castle. And nearly opposite, but projecting further into the sea, rises a more lofty headland, called St. Anthony's Point which forms the eastern side of the entrance, on which is a signal station. The castle, town, and harbour, of St. Mawes, lie within this point directly opposite to Pendennis; and near the middle of the entrance is the Black Rock, which is covered at high water, but on which the heirs of Killigrew, as lords of Pendennis Castle, are obliged to keep a pole, to warn mariners of their danger,

and for which all ships entering the harbour, pay a certain toll. The aggregate body of water, independently of St. Mawes and other creeks, may be said to form two harbours, one within another. The outer harbour is known by the name of Carreg or Carrick Road. This, taken from its utmost extremities, extends in a straight line, nearly five miles. In some places its depth of water is twenty fathoms, but in others the depth is diminished to four. The creek, which runs to Truro, is navigable for ships of 100 tons burden. The inner harbour diverges from the opposite boundaries of the hills, from Trefusis Point and the hill of Pendennis, towards Falmouth town. This is separated from the outer harbour by a bar of sand, on which, at ebb tide, there is only six feet of water. After expanding its waters in the form of an ample basin, and washing the towns of Falmouth and Flushing, it flows up before the latter to Penryn, and furnishes navigation for vessels of about 100 tons burden. In the body of water which constitutes these harbours, 500 sail may ride in perfect security, without incommoding one another.

In the winter of 1805, the Hon. Adml. Cornwallis sailed into this harbour several times, at low water, with five or six sail of heavy three-deckers and a scanty wind. In all southerly winds verging from east to west, within twenty points of the compass, the largest ships of the British navy can enter Carreg Roads, through the deep channel, at any time of the tide, even at dead low water, during the lowest springs. In the beginning of the year 1815, a fleet of 350 vessels, including ships of war, and merchantmen of great burden, took shelter in this harbour, and rode out several severe gales, without sustaining any damage. The entrance, which is about one mile in width, is so easy of access, that the packets, without any assistance, run in at

all times, without any apprehension of danger. The free ingress and egress at any time attainable, and the ease with which the ocean is gained from this harbour, render it superior to any other in the kingdom, for the purpose of transatlantic navigation.

The origin of Falmouth town, from being preserved in the tales of tradition, rather than in any permanent records, is already involved in much obscurity, and even rendered dubious by those conflicting opinions which mutually contradict each other. It has been frequently asserted, that all our most authentic accounts date the origin of this town subsequently to the year 1600; but there are circumstances connected with this statement that seem to ascribe to it a more early commencement. It was prior to the year 1600, that "a certain person, a female servant of Mr. Pendarvis of Pendarvis, about ten or twelve miles from Falmouth, erecting a house, came hither and dwelt in it." This seems evidently to have been a house of entertainment, as her master, Pendarvis, in order to encourage her in business, directed her to brew some ale against a certain day, when he would come, and bring a company of gentlemen with him, and help her to a little money by drinking it out. This order she most readily obeyed. But the biddance and the promise plainly show, that it must have been prior to the year 1552; as early in that year a law was made for the first time, requiring alehouses and tippling houses to be licensed. But on the present occasion not a word is spoken about any licence for this solitary house.

It happened about this time, while the ale was just in readiness for Mr. Pendarvis, that a Dutch vessel entered the harbour; when the crew coming on shore, laid siege to the barrel, and actually drank all the ale. This is the earliest intimation that occurs, of any Dutchman visiting

this harbour. But they seem afterwards to have had a large connexion with it, and to have left memorials of their frequent visits in the name of Flushing on the one side, and in that of Amsterdam given to some houses on the other.

Ignorant of what had passed, Mr. Pendarvis and his company came at the time appointed, and called for the ale; when they were informed by the servant, that she had none left. Her master expostulating with her on the impropriety of her conduct, she replied, "*Truly sir the Penny came so quick, I could not deny them.*" The country people around caught the story, and from that time gave to Falmouth the name of *Pennij come quick*. The house which was the scene of this transaction, has been marked as the earliest in the town; but in what particular spot it stood, has given rise to various opinions. Some have contended that it stood near the new quay opposite Flushing, and a little to the right of the long flight of steps by which we ascend from the passage boat that plies between Flushing and Falmouth; and others, that it was placed on the north side of the creek or cove which is now the Market Strand, and occupied the site on which the Spread Eagle now stands.

A manuscript history of the Killigrews, written by one of that family, says, that when Sir Walter Raleigh, returning from his unfortunate voyage to Guiana, put into this harbour, there was only one house besides Arwinnick; that at the latter he was entertained, and at the former his men were badly accommodated. This probably was the house called Penny come quick. Sir Walter being struck with the situation of the ground which ranged along from Arwinnick by the side of the harbour, immediately contemplated the advantages that might result from the erec-

tion of buildings near the water; and on his arrival in London, he laid before the council such a favourable report, that four additional houses speedily arose on this neglected shore.

“This then,” says a celebrated writer, “was one origin to the town of Falmouth.” But it had also another. “That house lies at some little distance from the extremest parts of the town, and to the north of all. Yet another house lies at the heart of the town, that was much more the nucleus of the whole; and we must therefore ascertain the position of this, with at least an equal degree of certainty. The creek or cove on which this house stood, is now a broad opening into the plane of what is called the Market Strand. This cove formerly went across the whole plane, across the ground of the houses beyond, and up the narrow valley behind the old market house, and in front of the present, filling the whole of that area which is called the Moor; across which as the buildings increased, a ferry was afterwards established.”

At what particular time the tide was shut out from this creek or inlet, is rather uncertain; but that it formerly filled the area stretching towards what is now called Berkeley Square, will not admit of any doubt. On building a brewhouse on the Moor, in the year 1794, a bed of sea sand, pebbles, and other marine substances, was discovered, much below the common surface of the ground. Even the old market house was originally built upon piles, because no solid foundation could be found; and on a future occasion when an enlargement of it became necessary, and they carried the buildings beyond the range of the piles, the whole frame began to crack, from the subsidence of the unstable materials below; in consequence of which the whole was re-erected in 1792. It is on this foundation, that the houses ranging along the Market Strand

have been erected ; and from the looseness of the ground below, they shake and tremble at the present moment, whenever a carriage passes swiftly or heavily along the street.

It was on the margin of this creek, that a smith's shop was erected, at a very early period ; from which circumstance, the village, which in process of time gathered around it, was denominated Smithike. The situation of this house, like that of Penny come quick, has given rise to opposite opinions ; some contending that it stood where Russell's waggon office is now built ; while others assert with equal confidence, that the Standard Inn, now the hotel, has been built directly before it ; and that what was once the shelving beach in front of the house, is now the back yard and water stairs of the inn. Nearly coeval with this period, some fishermen's cottages rose upon the margin of the harbour ; but in what particular place they were situated, is rather uncertain. Many suppose, that these obscure cottages, though too inconsiderable to be noticed, were erected long before either Penny come quick or Smithike had any existence ; and that the solitary house at which the men of Sir Walter Raleigh were badly accommodated, was only solitary as a house of entertainment. There is now standing near the Jew's synagogue, an ancient house, that appears in a ruinous condition, called Penny Wrinkle ; which is generally asserted, and believed by the inhabitants of Falmouth, to have been built even before Penny come quick, or Smithike.

Falmouth having thus started into existence from these distinct germes, and under these different appellations, continued in this state till the year 1613 ; when John Killigrew conceived the grand idea of erecting in this place a whole town at once. The inhabitants of Truro, who had hitherto held the undisputed sovereignty of the harbour, perceived in this scheme a formidable rival to

their long established power ; and in order to prevent it from being carried into execution, the interest of Penryn and Helston was consolidated with that of Truro, to preserve the trident from being wrested from their hands. Truro had probably beheld the rise of Penryn on a former occasion with the same eye of jealous circumspection. But only towns that rise all at once, can be opposed as Falmouth was, with any hope of success. These three boroughs uniting their interest, presented a petition to James I. against the intentions of Killigrew to erect his new town so near the mouth of the harbour. In this petition they gravely set forth, "That the erecting of a town at Smithlike would tend to the ruin and impoverishing of the ancient coinage and market towns aforesaid, not far distant from thence ; and therefore humbly prayed the king's majesty, that the buildings and undertakings of Mr. Killigrew might be inhibited for the future."*

* In the year 1695, Capt. James Killigrew commanded the Plymouth, of 60 guns, in the Mediterranean, and falling in with two French frigates, one of 64, and the other of 50 guns, off the Phare of Messina, he engaged them both for the space of four hours ! when, upon the report of the guns, one of his detached men of war came into his assistance, who so well seconded captain Killigrew, that the French betook themselves to a running fight, and, in a short time, the ship of 50 guns surrendered, and soon after sunk ! the other, having her masts shot by the board, yielded also, and was carried to Messina. There were on board the two French ships, above 700 men, of which almost one half were killed or wounded ; captain Killigrew was likewise killed in the fight, and about 50 of his men killed or wounded. Campbell mentions an anecdote of this gallant officer, which we cannot suppress without thinking ourselves criminal. When captain Killigrew came up with the Content, the largest of the enemy's ships, the whole French crew were at prayers ; and he might have poured in his broadside with great advantage ; this he refused to do, adding the following remarkable expression,—“It is beneath the courage of the English nation to surprize their enemies in such a posture.”

James, on receiving this petition, directed privy counsellors to make inquiries into the alleged facts, of the governor of Pendennis Castle. Sir Nicholas Hals, who was then governor, on receiving the letter, immediately replied, that "he well approved of Mr. Killigrew's project for building a town and custom house at Smithike, as being near the mouth of the Fal Harbour; for the quick and necessary supply of ships, brought thither by their own occasions or contrary winds, without being obliged to go up two miles to Penryn, or nine miles to Truro to take in and out their cargoes or ladings, and make entries at the custom house at such a distance."

The king, on hearing what could be urged both for and against the erection of this new town at his council board, finally determined like an impartial man, that the erecting of a town at Smithike by Mr. Killigrew, could not be prejudicial to the coinage and borough towns that had petitioned against it, on account of their distance.—That Mr. Killigrew had an undoubted right to turn his own lands to the best possible advantage, without the licence or approbation even of the king or any contiguous neighbour, provided no injury was done to another, and more especially when it was to promote the public good. Encouraged by this impartial decision, Mr. Killigrew resumed his buildings with vigour, and Falmouth started up within a few years, a respectable town of comparative grandeur and importance.

But this town was only a double line of houses, probably as being all at Smithike, facing equally to the sea and the land, running from the smith's house, the custom house, and the Market Strand, along the verge of the harbour. All this low range of ground at the foot and side of the steep hill, was apparently considered then as the beach of

the sea, the Market Strand still lying at one end, and the Fish Strand at the other. That this was formerly a beach, was proved not many years since, by sinking a well on the northern side of the Fish Strand, where about fifteen feet below the surface of the street, was discovered a stratum of pebbles, evidently rounded by the washing of the sea, immediately under which was found a spring of fine water.

The buildings began on the south side of the creek or Market Strand, around which on the north, the road, according to tradition, formerly went; but an embankment being thrown across the creek, the tide was excluded, a communication was opened, the buildings began also on the northern side, and both parts were united together, forming one continued line of houses. These in extending from the Market Strand to the Fish Strand, kept to the eastern side of the lane, because of the hill on the other. From this hill being called by its Cornish name, Porkan Hill, signifying the hill of the port or haven, it has been presumed that the few fishermen's cottages were situated on it, and to this conjecture the situation of Penny Wrinkle seems to give no contemptible sanction.

During Cromwell's usurpation, Peter Killigrew, though of a family remarkable for their loyalty, contrived to make such interest with the existing government, as to procure considerable advantages for the infant though growing town of Smithike. Among these he is said to have procured the establishment of a market, and to have obtained an order that the custom house should be removed from Penryn to this thriving town. On January 18, 1652, it was resolved by the house of commons, that a weekly market should be kept at Smithike; and a patent was issued for keeping a market on Thursday in every week,

Two others have since been established, on Tuesday and Saturday.

Falmouth retained the joint names of Smithike, and Penny come quick, until the year 1660; when on the 20th of August, a proclamation was issued by Charles II. that Smithike, alias Penny come quick, should from and for ever after that date be called Falmouth. In the month of October 1661, a charter of incorporation was granted to this new-named town, which among other particulars comprised the following:—"Whereas our village of Smithike, situate upon the sea coast, and near adjoining to our port of Falmouth, which is a most safe and commodious harbour for ships, insomuch that merchants and mariners, as well natives as foreigners, have used to assemble, and do now assemble from divers parts, to the village and port aforesaid, with their ships, goods, and merchandize, for the purpose of buying and selling the same freely from day to day; that now and for ever hereafter, our village aforesaid, with the port aforesaid, is and shall be one free village; and that from henceforth it shall not be called, named, or known by the name of the village of Smithike, but in all times hereafter shall be called or known by the name of our town of Falmouth." The charter then describes the bounds of the town to extend "In, through, and upon, such place or places as the same (village) from time to time, and from time whereof the memory of man is not to the contrary, hath been accustomed and ought to extend." This charter then finally incorporates the whole, "by the name of the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of our said town of Falmouth, with power to hold a court, &c.; and with a confirmation of one market in every week, and of two fairs in the year that had been heretofore held, and of ferriage or passage over the water in boats, from our

said town of Falmouth, unto the village of Flushing, and back to Falmouth again, which were given to Sir Peter Killigrew, knight, together with the moorage of ships or boats called the groundage, at or near the town of Falmouth, which dues had been by the said Peter Killigrew formerly usually taken."

In 1664, Falmouth was separated by act of parliament from Budock and Gluvias, and became a distinct parish. "Whereas," says the act, "heretofore there were only ten houses, there are already two hundred, whereby many persons would be drawn to settle themselves there, if they were not discouraged by the distance of the said town of Falmouth from the said parish church of Gluvias, being three long miles, so that the mayor and townsmen cannot repair thereunto, with conveniency or security to the said town of Falmouth lying open to the sea; and whereas towards the prevention of these inconveniences, by the bounty of his sacred majesty, and his highness the Duke of York, and the liberal contributions of several honourable and worthy persons, there is a church lately built and erected in the said town of Falmouth, in which the service of God is religiously celebrated by the licence of the ordinary and the metropolitan; whereas also Seth, Lord Bishop of Exeter, and patron of Gluvias, consents that Falmouth may be made a distinct parish; and whereas the mayor and townsmen of Falmouth, are willing to pay yearly unto the present incumbent of the said parish church of Gluvias, and his successors a gross sum, as much as ever was received out of the bounds or precincts whereof the said parish shall consist." For these reasons Falmouth was made a parish; and from that time to the present, the mayor and corporation have paid £3 per annum to the vicar of Gluvias.

About the year 1660, Sir Peter Killigrew constructed a quay at Falmouth. This has been found so commodious, that ships of large burden may lie with ease within its embrace, and discharge their cargoes.

The church of Falmouth, which was erected about the year 1662, was, through that spring tide of loyalty then running strongly through the nation, dedicated to "Charles king and martyr." The expence of this building was defrayed by the King, the Duke of York, and other distinguished persons. The land on which it stands was given by Sir Peter Killigrew. In 1684, a chancel was built at the east end, at the expence of the rector, the Rev. Walter Quarme, and a gallery was erected two years afterwards by Sir Peter Killigrew, and Bryant Rogers, Esq. In the following years some other additions were made; and in 1813 nearly one third part of its present length was added. Besides the established church, Falmouth has perhaps, a greater diversity of places for religious worship, than any other town in Cornwall. In the year 1790, an Independent chapel was erected, in which Divine service continues still to be regularly performed. The Wesleyan Methodist chapel was erected in 1791. This, in 1814, was so considerably enlarged as to become the most capacious meeting house the town can furnish. The Baptist chapel was erected in 1803, and enlarged in 1807. This building, in consequence of a rock giving way, at the foot of which it is situated, was nearly demolished in 1815; since which time it has been repaired at a vast expence. The friends commonly called Quakers, first obtained an establishment here so early as 1670; but their present meeting house was not erected until 1805. The Jews have a synagogue, which was built in 1808; but prior to this, they had one that was erected in 1766. The Roman Catholics have a

chapel at the house of the resident priest, the Rev. William Casemore. The Unitarians also have a chapel, which was formerly the theatre, and is attended by a very respectable part of the inhabitants. The commencement of this society in this place was in 1812 or 1813.

The charitable institutions of Falmouth are not less numerous than the places erected for religious worship. The Church Charity School for the education and clothing of thirty girls, was established in 1802. This is superintended by a committee of ladies. In 1804 a similar establishment was made for thirty boys, who are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, as the girls are in reading, knitting, and sewing. The Methodist Sunday School was established in 1805, for teaching children of both sexes to read. This school, which is held in the chapel, is supported by voluntary contributions, and the number of children amounts to 250. In 1806 a public dispensary was instituted by the inhabitants at a general meeting, and a house erected for that purpose behind the post office near the Market Strand. The object of this humane institution is to afford advice and medicine to the industrious but afflicted poor. A physician attends here every Wednesday morning; the surgeons on Friday mornings; the apothecary on Monday mornings, and every afternoon, with the exception of Sundays. By this society a reward of a guinea is given to any boatman who can speedily rescue from the water, the body of any person recently fallen into it; and this is augmented to a larger sum, in case the apparently drowned person can be restored to life.

The Misericordia Society, which has principally for its object the relief of poor strangers and other distressed persons in town, was first established on a small scale about

the commencement of the present century ; but in 1807 it acquired a degree of respectability unknown before. This was principally owing to the benevolent exertions of the late Lieutenant Governor Melville, of Pendennis Castle. By this humane society, Falmouth is divided into seven districts ; to each of which visitors are appointed, to administer spiritual instruction and pecuniary aid. The donations and subscriptions of this institution amount to upwards of £100 per annum.

The Church Sunday School was established in 1809, under the inspection of the Rev. R. H. Hitchins, and the late Governor Melville. Upwards of 300 children of both sexes are taught reading and the catechism, by teachers who render their services gratuitously. A charitable society was also formed in 1810, for the benefit of the relatives of deceased members, which has been attended with the most beneficial effects. A widow's retreat was likewise built in 1810, at the joint expence of Lord Wodehouse and Samuel Tregelles, Esq. containing comfortable residences for ten poor widows of unblemished characters, and who had never received any parochial relief. The baptists also established a Sunday school in 1810, in which about 150 children are regularly taught. In the same year a lying-in charity was established for supplying poor women with linen during their confinement. The linen is to be returned at the end of six weeks, when clothes are presented by the same humane society to the child. Another society was formed in the same year for supplying the poor with blankets.

In the year 1811, the Falmouth branch of the Cornwall Auxiliary Bible Society was established ; and in 1814 another was formed for supplying the neighbouring poor with bibles. During the same year a girl's free school was

established; and in the following year it was much improved by Miss Howell. In this school fifty-six girls are taught reading, writing, sewing, and knitting. A free school for boys on the plan of Mr. Lancaster, was also established in 1812, by a general meeting of the inhabitants, when a liberal subscription was made for its support. To promote this laudable institution, Lord Wodehouse gave a piece of land on which the school house now stands. About 170 boys are taught in this seminary, reading, writing, and arithmetic. In 1813, another humane society was formed for the same benevolent purposes as the Misericordia already noticed. An adult school was established in February 1814, by the Methodists, in which persons of both sexes are taught to read the Bible. In April, during the same year, a Sunday school was established at the Independent chapel, for teaching children of both sexes.

The merchant's hospital, for the relief of maimed and disabled seamen, and for the widows and children of such as should be killed or drowned in the merchants' service, was established about the year 1750, under an act of parliament passed in 20 Geo. II. in favour of seamen belonging to the city of London. To support this institution, every seaman belonging to a packet or merchant ship registered in the port of Falmouth, pays sixpence per month. The present income is about £300 per annum. This has been attended with the most beneficial consequences. There are several other benevolent institutions of minor importance; all of which shew the same spirit of philanthropy by which Falmouth is so pre-eminently distinguished.

Mrs. Ann Davell, a lady of Chiswick, Middlesex, gave to the poor of Falmouth the annual sum of £9 for ever, being the income on £300 East India stock, to be applied

alternately, one year towards the support of some poor widow, and the other towards clothing and putting some poor widow's son apprentice. The management of this charity is placed under the mayor and corporation. This is said to be a grateful return made by this lady for some kind treatment which the inhabitants of Falmouth manifested towards her brother, while he was ill in this town. Richard Pidsley, Esq. who died in 1802, left a legacy of £5 per annum, to be distributed in bread at the church, on the second Sunday in every month, to the poor of the town. There are two freemasons' lodges in this town, one of which is conducted on a most magnificent scale, and is allowed to be the first in the west of England.

Falmouth derives its principal interest from its packets, the present establishments of which are, Lisbon six, the foreign established, seventeen, and the temporary eleven. The six oldest captains are employed on the Lisbon station.

The order of sailing of the packets is as follows :—For Lisbon, every Friday evening from October to April, and on Saturday morning from April to October.—For Barbadoes and Jamaica, and America, on the Sunday after the first Wednesday in every month.—Leeward Islands, on the Sunday after the 3d Wednesday in every month.—Brazils, on the Saturday after the first Tuesday in every month ;—and for the Mediterranean, a packet sails every third Saturday.

The different actions in which the packets have been engaged during the late war, have added additional lustre to the character of British seamen.

Closely connected with the town and harbour of Falmouth, though still included in the parish of Budock, is Pendennis Castle. This, for some reasons that cannot now be satisfactorily explained, was excluded from the new

district by the act of parliament, which made Falmouth a distinct parish. The act states its boundaries to extend "to the outer works of Pendennis Castle on the south side;" thus leaving the castle and its fortifications within the old parish of Budock.

This celebrated fortress stands on the summit of a verdant hill, gently sloping towards the isthmus which connects it with the main land, but descending with more abruptness towards the sea. The castle was built in the reign of Henry VIII. on the site of some old fortifications that commanded the harbour. These works were afterwards strengthened and enlarged by queen Elizabeth, to afford more permanent protection to this important inlet. Since her days the inside of the castle has been modernized, and it now furnishes a convenient residence for the lieutenant governor. This fortress, which is built of Cornish granite, is proudly exalted on an elevation upwards of 300 feet from the sea, from which the prospect is at once pleasing and extensive, and from which the whole entrance of the harbour is commanded. The fortifications, which are of an irregular shape, include an area of between three and four acres. On the north or land side, it is defended by four cavaliers; and the traces of a horn and crown work constructed during the civil war, are at a short distance. The banks of the ditch and citadel still remain; the situation of which was admirably calculated to check the progress of an enemy over the isthmus. On the east, near the water's edge, is a battery of five guns called Crab Quay; and on the hill above is an half moon battery. Within the works are convenient barracks for troops, magazines, and storehouses. On the south-west side there are several little dwellings, with beautiful gardens attached to each. These erections, and this cultivation, originated

with Governor Melville, who encouraged his soldiers to build cottages, and raise vegetables for their families, by furnishing them with tools, and with the ground on which these evidences of industry appear.

The land on which the whole range of fortifications at Pendennis stands, belonged originally to John Killigrew, Esq. who was appointed the first governor of this castle, and who in the year 1567 was succeeded by his son Sir John Killigrew, knight. This, for some considerable time, was held of this family by the crown, at a small yearly rent and a fine. But Sir Peter Killigrew, bart. contrived to turn the whole into an yearly rent of £200, and to abolish the fine altogether.

This garrison was rendered famous during the civil war, for its obstinate resistance of the parliamentary forces, for its strong adherence to the interests of Charles, and for the protection which it afforded to many who were attached to his cause. In July 1644, it was the residence of Queen Henrietta Maria, who embarked hence for France. During this and the following year, the Duke of Hamilton was detained a considerable time in this fortress as a prisoner of war. In 1645, prince Charles was entertained and protected here by its brave defender John Arundell, Esq. There is still a room in this castle which retains the name of the king's room; and in a closet over, there was formerly a small fire place, about twelve inches square. In this closet, according to tradition, Charles was concealed. This, and a vacancy for a seat opposite the fire place, were demolished about sixteen years since, when this part of the castle underwent some repairs.

In November 1717, this fortress was considerably injured by a thunder storm. The lightning in its passage struck through the walls of the building, which are eight or nine

feet thick; removing enormous stones of five or six hundred weight. This shock so damaged the works, that for some time they were indefensible. This is the only accident of any consequence, arising from natural causes, that it is known to have suffered since its first erection.*

* Among the brave defenders of this important fortress, the late Governor Melville, from the extraordinary sufferings which marked his life while in India, and from that humanity, benevolence, and piety, which distinguished his conduct while the commander of this place, demands a tribute of respect. This gentleman, to whose virtues several laudable institutions in Falmouth are under peculiar obligations, was born at Dunbar, in 1762. His father was collector of the customs at that place, under whose eye he received his education. At the age of sixteen he entered the army, his father having procured for him a lieutenant's commission in the 73d regiment. He went to India with his regiment in the year 1782, and was in the expedition against Hyder Ally and Tippoo Saib. His company was commanded by Captain (now Sir David) Baird. In the first action, Lieut. Melville was wounded in the left arm, which shattered the bone. Immediately after, on turning round to give the word of command, a ball passed through the same arm, and through his left breast. In the confusion and carnage which ensued, the muscles of his right arm were cut in two by a sabre; in this helpless condition he fell into the hands of the victorious savages, who in order that they might strip him without interruption, dragged him by the feet to a convenient spot, his head striking against the stones, and his mangled arms trailing on the ground. Stripped and abandoned by his plunderers, a horseman passing by, still added to his misery by wounding him in the back with a spear, while he lay bleeding on the ground. In this horrible condition he lay two days and two nights, exposed, during the former, to the intense heat of a burning sun, and during the latter, to the beasts of prey, which gorge themselves with the produce of a field of battle; and suffering in each vicissitude, not only the agonies which his wounds occasioned, but what was still more acute, the horrible sensation of extreme thirst. On the morning of the third day he was picked up by one of the enemy, and carried to their camp; after which, he remained a prisoner nearly four years; and on his release he was promoted to the rank of captain. He returned to England in 1786; and being an invalid, was appointed to the command of an invalid company at Guernsey, where he

On the north-west of Pendennis Castle, the sea forms a capacious bay, indented with creeks; and stretches to the south-west in a line broken by little coves, as far as a reef of rocks called the Manacles. But in an eastwardly and northwardly direction, the view extends to distant headlands, and tracts of country, from St. Anthony's Point, to a hill in St. Agnes in the north-west part of the county. The coast from the castle, except within the harbour, appears bold and rocky, and is scooped into caverns which reverberate the foaming tide, and swell the grandeur of the scene when the watery element is agitated by a storm.

Arwinnick seat,—the house was built by John Killigrew, Esq. who died in 1567. Arwinnick was esteemed at that time the finest and most costly mansion in the county. During the civil wars this house was set on fire; but whether by Sir John Killigrew, its owner, who was a zealous royalist, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the adverse party, or by the malice of the governor of Pendennis Castle, under that pretext, is rather uncertain. A manuscript history of the Killigrew family asserts the former. After the restoration it was partly rebuilt for the occasional

married. Five years afterwards he retired from public service; but he soon exchanged his pay for the command of a company at Pendennis Castle, of which not long afterwards he was appointed lieutenant governor; which office he retained until his death. This event took place on the 29th of October, 1811, in the forty-ninth year of his age. His remains are deposited in Falmouth church, where by a particular friend, an appropriate tablet is erected to his memory. During his residence at Pendennis, he was respected and beloved by all who were favoured with his acquaintance. By his death the affluent lost an amiable companion, who was ever ready to stimulate them to every benevolent work; and the poor a benefactor, who sympathized with them in their distresses. The present governor is General F. Buckley; but Lieut. Col. W. Fenwick is lieutenant governor, and resides in the castle.

residence of its ancient proprietor ; but its primitive grandeur was never recovered. George Killigrew the son of Peter Killigrew, Esq.* was killed in an affray at an inn in Penryn, by Walter Vincent, Esq.

What remains of the ancient mansion, has been divided into two dwellings. Its destruction by fire ruined its

* In the days of Charles II. Thomas Killigrew, one of the Arwinnick family, was much caressed at court, as a jester or master of the revels. His ready wit gave celebrity to his name in most courts of Europe. The following instance among many others, has been preserved of its pointed severity. Having some occasion that called him to France, he went to Versailles to make his observations on the French court. After some time he was introduced to Louis XIV. who had long expressed a desire to see a man in whose favour the trumpet of fame had so long sounded its notes. Killigrew however, was far from being so loquacious at that time as Louis expected ; and he retired, observing to the nobleman by whom Killigrew was introduced, that he thought him a very dull fellow. The nobleman however, and several others, assured his majesty, that how unfortunate soever he might have been, in procuring some specimens of his wit, he was certainly a man of brilliant talents. Encouraged by their assurances, Louis resolved to make another trial, and an opportunity soon presented itself. Conducting Killigrew through a long gallery where were many elegant pictures, the king, to promote conversation, asked him if he knew of whom or of what they were ; but Killigrew knew nothing. Provoked at his stupidity, his majesty then pointed him to the picture of Christ on the cross, and sarcastically asked, if he knew who that was ? But to this Killigrew replied as before, that he did not know. Then replied Louis I will inform you. " This in the centre, is Christ on the cross ; that on the right hand, is his holiness the pope ; and that on the left, is myself." " I humbly thank your majesty," returned Killigrew, " for the information ; I have often heard that Christ was crucified between two thieves, but I never knew till now who they were." Louis was soon convinced that he had decided too hastily on the stupidity of his guest. This repartee fell with additional keenness, as it was delivered at the time when the pope and French king were persecuting the French Protestants ; and either dragging them to mass, or driving them from the country.

ancient magnificence ; and that which was restored when it was partly rebuilt, has been so disfigured by white-washing and incongruous alterations, that its venerable character is now lost. The pyramid in an adjoining grove was built in the years 1737 and 1738, by Martin Killigrew, Esq. at the expence of £455 15s. 6d. It is formed of blocks of granite, is forty-four feet high, and fourteen feet wide at its base. The manor of Arwinick now belongs to Lord Wodehouse.

In 1769, John Lord Robartes was created Earl of Falmouth, which title he retained only six days, in consequence of a joke, passed by Lady Mohun in complimenting his lady in an ironical manner, on her acquisition of the title of "Countess of Penny come quick."

On Friday, January 14th 1814, a melancholy disaster happened in this harbour, in the loss of the Queen transport, bound from Lisbon to Portsmouth with invalids from Lord Wellington's army. This ship entered the harbour on Friday, January 7th, and came to an anchor in Carrick Road, where she lay until the Thursday following. On that day a gale commenced at E. S. E. which continued with increasing violence, accompanied with a fall of snow, until Friday morning ; when between six and seven o'clock she parted her cable and drove on the rocks at Trefusis Point. At this awful moment there were 330 souls on board. Immediately on the parting of the cable, another anchor was let go, but through the alarm which prevailed, so many crowded the deck, that the seamen were prevented from doing their duty. To prevent those which still remained below from coming on deck, the ladders were removed ; but this so increased their anxiety, that they seized the running cable to mount by its assistance, which stopped its progress before a sufficiency was overboard. In

consequence of this it dragged through the sand ; and with her stern foremost, the vessel presently struck against a rock, when a scene of horror ensued, which no language can fully express. The waves beating over her, many who were on deck were swept in an instant to their watery grave ; while others were so maimed and mangled with the floating spars, and shattered rigging, as to be unable either to render their associates in distress any assistance, or to provide for their own safety. Such as remained below were quickly consigned to their fate, as the ship filled with water within about five minutes after she struck ; soon after which she went to pieces, and her fragments were driven on shore in every direction. By this melancholy catastrophe 195 persons perished.

Among the first who were so fortunate as to reach the shore, some hastened to Flushing to procure assistance. The inhabitants hastened to their relief ; and while some proceeded to the fatal spot to aid the half naked fugitives, others made preparations at home for their reception. Even the poorest inhabitants took the blankets from their beds to shelter from the piercing cold such as were destitute of clothing. All seemed to vie with one another in acts of humanity, according to their respective abilities, and their general conduct deserves the warmest testimonies of approbation,

To the crowds that were induced to assemble at the fatal spot, the day presented a most awful spectacle. Dead bodies of men, women, and children, many of them mangled several of them naked, and some half dressed, strewed the shore, with fragments of the wreck, scattered in every direction. Others floated with portions of the vessel on the heaving surge, and occasionally lifted their lifeless limbs among the foaming breakers. One object in par-

ticular, among the dead bodies that were thrown on shore, excited in every bosom the sigh of singular commiseration. This was the corpse of a lovely female, wife to one of the officers. She was washed from the wreck with her infant in her arms; and in this manner she was found, stiffened in the embrace of death. Upwards of 140 bodies were found, and interred at Mylor, Budock, and Gluvias; and over their common graves the parishioners in each place have erected a monument to perpetuate the memory of this dreadful catastrophe.

The trade carried on at Falmouth by its merchants, and through the medium of its harbour, is far more considerable than that of any other port in the county. This was one of the first ports in the west, to which the privileges of bonding were extended; and at present it is the only tobacco port in Cornwall and Devon. Among other articles imported from foreign countries, the following are most conspicuous:

From America, tobacco, wood, wheat, flour, Indian corn, staves, rice, &c.—From Spain and Portugal, fruit, wine, brandy, wool, salt, specie, &c.—From Holland, geneva, cheese, butter, and grain.—From Russia and the north of Europe, hemp, tallow, tar, pitch, iron, linen, sailcloth, timber, and occasionally grain.—From the Mediterranean, fruit, oil, silk, salt, &c.—From South America, hides, sugars, cotton, wool, &c.—From France, grain, flour, fruit, wine, brandy, salt, &c.—From Ireland, grain, provisions, butter, &c.—From Wales, Liverpool, &c. coals, iron, earthenware, salt, &c.—From London, Bristol, &c. groceries, ship chandlery, &c.

The exports, although the articles were less numerous, corresponded in quantity, prior to the war, with the imports. To Italy were exported vast quantities of pressed pilchards,

tin, tin plates, leather, and other commodities; and even during the war, pilchards and tin were occasionally sent by licence to Naples. For pilchards in pickle a market has lately been found in the west Indies.—To Malta, Turkey, &c. tin, tin plates, cotton goods, &c. To Russia, tin, and tin plates; and in times of peace, these articles as well as cotton goods, pilchard oil, copper, and various other commodities, found their way into almost all the markets of Europe, together with wine and brandy, which had been imported under the bonding act. Cotton and woollen goods, iron, porter, stationary, &c. are exported to Portugal and Spain. The trade carried on through the packets was formerly of considerable extent, both in exports and imports, but particularly the former. But this trade has of late been so diminished, that scarcely any thing is done through this medium at present. The restrictions which have operated to the destruction of this traffic, have been severely felt by several of our large manufacturing towns, without aiding the revenues of government.

From the advantageous situation of this port, many instances have occurred, in which vessels sailing hence, have entered the Atlantic, and completed their voyage, while others from Portsmouth and Plymouth sailing at the same time, have been driven back through the Channel, and detained by contrary winds, until the former have returned. Outward bound ships from Liverpool, Bristol, Greenock, &c. rendezvous at this port to join convoys, by which they avoid a tedious navigation up the Channel. And as this is (in the west) the first port in England, the masters and supercargoes of both outward and homeward bound ships resort hither, to receive final instructions from their owners, by which they ascertain the state of the British

and foreign markets, and regulate their future proceedings accordingly.

In some creeks of Falmouth Harbour, tin is found among the slime and sands.

Swan Pool is situated between the parishes of Budock and Falmouth, is not quite half a mile in length, and it is something less than a quarter of a mile wide. Its water is fresh, except in stormy weather, when the high tides overflow the bar of pebbles, sand, and shingle, by which it is obstructed in its passage, and divided from the sea. The water in this pool is in general shallow, and produces no fish but eels, which are esteemed for their delicious flavour. In severe winters the surface of this lake is sometimes frozen over, sufficiently hard to invite the adventurous to skate upon it; and many lives have been lost there. A small rivulet descending into the vale, and a few tributary rills, supply it with water, and give variety to its dimensions, in proportion to the quantity they yield, and the obstructions which the surf presents on the sandy shore below. Near this pool is a lead mine, but at present she does not appear to be very promising.

In Carreg Road in the harbour of Falmouth a coral sand is procured by dredging, to which the lands on each side of this fine navigable river are greatly indebted.

The walks and rides in the neighbourhood are diversified and beautiful.

Falmouth parish contains 621 acres, and (exclusive of the population and dwellings belonging to the town) 187 houses, and 1374 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.

The town contains 470 houses and 3933 inhabitants; is situated 11 miles from Truro, 55 from Plymouth, 92 from Exeter, and 265 from London.

FEOCK.

This parish lies about four miles from Penryn, about the same distance from Falmouth across a passage, and nearly the same from Truro. Its two principal villages are La Feock and Trevella.

It is generally understood, that the Cornish language was so long retained in this parish, that so late as the reign of James I. the Rev. William Jackman, then vicar, was compelled to administer the sacrament in that tongue, because many of his communicants did not understand English. This was the last church in Cornwall, in which the Cornish language was preserved.

Killiganoon is the seat of Admiral Spry.

Trelisick is the seat of R. A. Daniell, Esq.

La Feock in this parish, though now a farm house, was formerly the seat of Thomas Penrose, a celebrated admiral in the times of Charles and Cromwell. Few men belonging to this county have ever passed through greater dangers or been engaged in more terrible battles, than this officer. He fought under Blake, while a captain, against Van Tromp,—was with Sir George Ayscough in 1652, in a battle with the Dutch fleet off Plymouth,—was again in another bloody sea fight off Weymouth, while he commanded the Maidstone frigate, in which he lost fifty men killed and many more wounded,—was in the engagement in which Van Tromp was slain,—was sent to assist the king of Sweden against the Danes, but peace taking place he was not called into action. Nevertheless, as a reward of his intrepidity and promptitude, he was presented by that king with a gold chain and medal weighing eighteen ounces, which medal was in possession of his daughter in

the days of Hals. During one of these expeditions, being driven by contrary winds into Falmouth Harbour, he entertained at his own house in Feock, Blake, Monk, Ayscough, and several other gentlemen of distinguished character belonging to the English fleet. On the restoration of Charles II. he retired from public service, and took up his abode at La Feock; but his country demanding his services, he was again called into action by letters from the Dukes of York and Albermarle, under the direction of Charles. In this service he belaved with his accustomed intrepidity and valour, which procured for him the thanks of Charles, and of his secretaries of state, war, and admiralty. But being unable to procure either for himself or his men, who were Cornish, the wages they had earned at the peril of their lives, his seamen when discharged, assailed him in London, when an affray happening, in which a man named Lampeer, of Truro, was killed, Penrose was committed to Newgate, and finally condemned to die. He however, received the royal pardon; but the clerks and officers, through whose hands his reprieve passed, extorted from him £200. This so preyed upon his spirits that he abandoned himself to excesses, which brought on a fever that terminated his days in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

When his service was ended, the sum due to him amounted to £1500, of which neither he, nor his heirs, executors, posterity, or friends, ever received a farthing. Such was Stuart justice and gratitude!

In this parish on an arm of Falmouth Harbour, called Restronguet Creek, into which flow many rivulets from the hills on the east of Redruth, lay the rich stream works of Carnon. These workings are about a mile in length, and about 300 yards in breadth; and when in working, were the richest in the county. The pebbles from which the

metal was extracted, were imbedded in compound of marle, and marine substances. Hence it appears, that the whole area over which Carnon Stream extended, was originally occupied by the tide, which has been driven back by the rubbish washed from the hills. Of this the proprietors availing themselves, formed an embankment, which enabled them to secure the riches which lay below. The bed of tin pebbles lay about thirty-six feet below the surface of the ground, and in thickness it was from four to six feet.

Immediately on this bed of tin ground, several stags' horns have been found, one of which measured three feet. Skulls and other bones of various animals have been discovered in this vale ; and what renders it apparent that this bed of ore was known at a very early period, a wooden shovel, and various picks made of deer's horn have been found at different depths. The late workings began in 1785, and the profits have amounted to upwards of £40,000. Among the tin grains, minute particles of gold were frequently discovered. A little above Carnon Stream an adit commences, which with incredible labour has been carried to the western part of North Downs, a distance of several miles. This by its various branches, drains the mines of Chacewater, North Downs, Wheal Unity, Wheal Garland, Wheal Pink, Wheal Jewel, Wheal Hope, Wheal Daniel, Poldice, Wheal Virgin, and the United Mines. The water that issues from this adit, was used to drive the machinery in Carnon stream-work, and it has also been converted to other useful purposes. But the riches of this vale have been exhausted for several years, so far as the tide could be driven back, to allow the workings to continue. Much valuable ore no doubt still remains in the extremity of this vale, as it approaches towards the sea; but the difficulty of forming an embankment, and the

expenditure attending the workings, have consigned over the ground which has been unexplored, to future adventurers and future years.

Feock contains 2580 acres, 185 houses, and 968 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Powder.



GERMOE.

This parish is about eight miles east of Penzance, and about five west of Helston. The principal villages are Boscreeg and Tresowes.

Dr. Borlase, speaking of its patron saint, observes that "Germochus, according to tradition, was an Irish king, who in company with Breaca and others, landed in Cornwall near the river Hayle, about the year 460."

At the north-east corner of the church-yard, is a covered seat of moorstone, divided by pillars into three compartments. Over the centre arch is a man's head cut in moorstone. This is called the chair of Germochus. It is said to have been built by the Millitons of Pengersick.

Hals says, "In this parish stands Godolphin Bal, *i. e.* Godolphin Plague, or a place deadly that bringeth danger, death, or mischief; and this and all other tin mines are generally under like circumstances, whereof in British, many of them are called bals. This is that inexhaustible mountain or tin work, which for some hundreds of years, hath afforded its owners or lords, the Lamburns, Stephens, Navas, now Godolphins, and other adventurers, several thousand pounds worth of tin per annum; and which is called a bal as above, from the dangerous, wet, deep, and miserable occupation of the labouring tinnerns therein; wherein great numbers of them are infected by the damps with incurable diseases, others slain by accident and come

to untimely deaths. Tacitus informs us that when the Romans ruled here, none but captives, slaves, and condemned persons, were obliged to work under ground in tin mines."

Germoe contains 1062 acres, 154 houses, and 735 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



ST. GLUVIAS.

In this parish the ancient borough of Penryn is situated, (for an account of which see the head Penryn). The name of this parish is of great antiquity, being known at the Norman Conquest. It seems to have derived it from an Irish saint. The principal villages are Burnthouse, Ponsnooth, and Treluswell.

The church of Gluvias, which is close to Penryn, is a spacious and handsome building. Its situation is remarkably pleasant, and this is rendered additionally interesting, by the woody scenery with which it is encircled.

Cosawis, the birth place of Capt. Henry Carveth, a distinguished naval officer, in the reign of Charles II. His merit raised him to the rank of standing captain under the Earl of Ossory, for which post he received £300 per annum for life. He died about the year 1684, and was interred in Gluvias church with military honours. When this family became extinct in the male line, this barton passed to the Levertons. The mansion is now a farm house. On this estate there was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. Magdalen, and supposed to have been a chantry chapel connected with Glaseney College. It was situated near the farm of Cosawis, between the house and the wood, on a bold spot of ground commanding a view of the valley towards Perranarworthal. A field near this spot is called

Chapel Close. Some pillars belonging to this chapel were standing about forty years since, and a farmer named Trevena, remembers his removing large flat stones, which he conceives formed a part of the pavement. The ground is now covered with brambles and bushes.

In Cosawis Wood, not far from Penryn, there are gunpowder mills erected by Mr. Gill, late of Penryn, who, in the year 1810, manufactured about 2000 barrels of gunpowder.

Enys, the Seat of Francis Enys, Esq. has been in the family ever since the days of Edward I. It is situated about two miles from Penryn, on the right hand leading to Truro. In the year 1720, notice was taken of its celebrated gardens. They still preserve their beauty, and the grounds are enlivened with the diversified prospects which they command.

Bellevue boarding school is near Penryn, in an airy situation, from which the prospects are both extensive and pleasing. Belle Vesta, a seminary for young ladies, is near Bellevue.

Gwarder, formerly the seat of the Hallamores, is now a farm house.

In the parish church there is a tomb of Thomas Killigrew, who died in 1484, on which are figures of himself and his two wives cut on plates of brass. There are also monuments of the families of Pendarves of Roscrow, of Enys of Enys, and of the Rev. John Penrose, vicar of Gluvias, who died in 1776.

About half a mile on the northern side of Gluvias church, is still a barn which nearly occupies the site of a house, in which was committed a singular murder, attended with such circumstances of atrocity, that it furnished Lillo with a plot for one of his dramas, which he entitled "The

Penryn Tragedy ;” but this title has since been changed by Colman, and it is now known by the name of “The Fatal Curiosity.” This place is now called Behelland Barn. The particulars connected with this horrid deed, were preserved in a small pamphlet, which was published in 1618, in which year the event is said to have taken place. It was printed in black letter, and contained several wood cuts ; but it is now probably, irrecoverably lost. This pamphlet bore the following singular title ;—“News from Penrin in Cornwall ; of a most bloody and unexampled murther, very lately committed by a father on his own sonne (who was lately returned from the Indies) at the instigation of a mercilesse stepmother. Together with their severall most wretched endes ; being all performed in the month of September last, anno 1618.” Of this transaction, the particulars of which are preserved in the tragedy, the following are the prominent outlines :—

The son at an early period paid his addresses to a young lady of Penryn, and having gained her affections, and they had plighted their mutual vows, he departed to India, in which place, as his absence was long, and no account had been received from him, his parents thought him dead, His father being much reduced in his circumstances, received some assistance from the young lady, who with an old servant, still cherished some hopes of his son being alive. A storm happening one night, after several years had elapsed, a ship from India was driven into Falmouth Harbour, where being wrecked, all her cargo, and most of her men were lost. From this wreck was saved a man dressed in an Indian habit, who proved to be the long departed youth ; and who, on reaching Penryn, sought his fair one, and made himself known to her. From her house he proceeded as a shipwrecked mariner to Behelland,

carrying with him a letter to his parents, written by the young lady, recommending the stranger to their care; he having given her directions to come at a time appointed, that, in company with each other, they might participate in the burst of joy which he anticipated, when he should throw off his disguise and declare himself their son. Being kindly received by means of the letter he had brought, the young man entered into conversation with his parents, without discovering himself; and after some time requested permission to lie down and refresh himself with sleep. Before he retired, he put into his mother's hands a casket of jewels, which he had preserved from the wreck, requesting her to secure it until he awoke. Possessed of this treasure, and actuated by the demon of avarice, she stimulated her husband to murder the stranger while asleep, with his own dagger which she had secretly taken from his side. Not long after this fatal act was committed, the young lady and her friends made their appearance at the house, to enjoy those delicious moments when her lover should make himself known to his parents. But on making enquiries, they soon discovered what had been done. No sooner did the old man learn that the murdered stranger was his own son, than, with the same dagger, he stabbed his wife who had urged him to the deed, and then immediately killed himself.

The particulars of this horrid narrative are recorded by Saunderson in his annals of James I. as taken from the pamphlet above mentioned. He observes, that "the imprinted relation conceals the names, in favour to some neighbours of repute and kin to the family."

Norden speaking of Gluvias as a chapel of Budock, says, that "in ancient times it was called the chapel of Bohelland, because it was built in Bohelland Fields."

Wheal Maudling tin mine is in this parish, and is likely to be productive.

St. Gluvias contains 2271 acres, (exclusive of the borough of Penryn,) 123 houses, and 714 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



GRADE.

This parish is about nine miles south-south-east from Helston ; in 1294 it obtained its present name Grade or Grada. Its principal village is the small sea port of Cadgwith. Alluding to the origin of its name, Mr. Whitaker makes the following observation, in which he traces it up to an ancient saint. "About a quarter of a mile to the north-east of Grade church, is a noted well, from which is fetched all the water used in baptism at the church. It has also a saint and a hermit belonging to it, being denominated Grade's Well ; 'this Sancta Grada, alias Grade,' settling at it in some latter period, when the parishes of Ruan Major and Minor had been both laid out in one, so superseding the name of Rumon at it, and even occasioning a new parish to be formed out of the fragments of both, with Landewednack as a chapelry afterwards to it, now equally a parish church itself."

Erisey, which is partly in this parish, and partly in that of Ruan Major, belonged formerly to a family of this name, which can be traced up so high as the reign of Edward I. and which became extinct in the male line about the year 1722. Lord Wodehouse is through his mother, the representative of this ancient and respectable family. This property is now possessed by Lord Falmouth. The manor house, through which a division of the parishes runs, is still extant. It is an ancient spacious building ; but being

occupied by a farmer, some parts remain useless, and are going to decay. The orchards are extensive, but the gardens retain only a small portion of their former magnificence.

In the church there are several monuments of the Erisey family. On the outside of the north aisle of the chancel is a monument erected to the memory of Hugh Mason, gent. who died in 1671.

Cadgwith is a populous village and fishing cove, (part of which is in Ruan Minor). The rocks on the coast form a very interesting and extraordinary amphitheatre, the sides of which are nearly 200 feet high. This was formerly a notorious place for smuggling.

In the year 1797, seven persons of one family were living in this parish, whose ages amounted to 550, viz.—Oliver Oliver 84, Elizabeth Francis 87, Catharine Willey 80, Duance Martin 82, Grace Oliver 79, Grace Roberts 72, and Ursula Harry 66. In this year they celebrated their Christmas together with great hilarity.

Grade contains 2005 acres, 70 houses, and 306 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



GULVAL.

This parish lies about two miles and half nearly west from Marazion, and about a mile nearly north-east from Penzance. Besides the church town, its principal villages are Chyandour, Trevarrack, and Trezella. In ancient times this parish was sometimes known by the name of Wulfall, which is supposed to have been obtained from its celebrated well, to whose waters many miraculous virtues were ascribed.

The manor of Lanesley belonged to the family of De

Als. In 1266 Simon De Als gave this manor to the priory of St. Germans, for the health and salvation of his soul, that of his wife, and those of his ancestors and relations. It was a bargain with the prior and his canonical brethren, for the eternal happiness of the whole family. But at the time of the Reformation, this property being seized by the crown, the manor was granted to Beaumont and Barry, from whom it passed to the family of Tripcony about the year 1565.

Kenegie, this seat is occasionally visited by William Arundell Harris, Esq. the proprietor.

Trevaylér in this parish, is the property and residence of the Rev. William Veale.

Of late years the scenery of this parish has been greatly improved by the extensive plantations raised on Rosmorran Cairne and Tryé, two estates belonging to George John, Esq. Not far from Rosmorran Cairne there are some remains of an ancient cromleh, near which have been found a celt, and some broken but antiquated earthenware.

The church contains a monument of Arthur Harris, Esq. of Haine, who died in 1628. This gentleman was governor of St. Michael's Mount.

Dr. Borlase speaks of some specimens of porphyry having been found in this parish, particularly near a small river called Pons-an-dane. From this he infers, that it is not improbable, there may be some veins or strata of this substance, sunk in the rocks under the surface of the sea near this place; especially as the waves frequently throw certain portions on the beach at Mount's Bay after a storm. None however has yet been discovered in any of the rocks or cliffs.

In this parish of Gulval, there is an elliptical ring, formed wholly of perpendicular stones. These stones were

originally nineteen in number, all placed at nearly equal distances from one another, but not with any particular regard to exactness. Of these stones, thirteen only remained erect, when Dr. Borlase wrote; the other six, having been thrown down, lay on the ground near the places in which they once stood. No rule seems to have been observed, in the selection of these pillars or stones, with regard either to their height or their magnitude. They vary from one another in a promiscuous manner, leaving us wholly at a loss to conjecture the end for which they were collected, and placed in their erect positions.

In a vale or bottom called Barlowena, in a road that leads from the church of Gulval to that of Madern, there is a monumental stone with an inscription on it. This stone is seven feet nine inches long, one foot thick, and one foot eight inches wide. It is at present laid across a brook, and serves as a bridge for foot passengers, and is generally known by the name of Blue Bridge. The inscription on this stone, like that of several others, is also contracted. The words at full length would run thus :

QUENATAVUS ICDINUI FILIUS.

Mr. Lhuyd says, that this was once the tomb-stone of a Briton, whose name in Welsh would have been *Kynadav ap Ichdinow*. From what spot this stone was brought, or at what particular time, is not known. It never seems to have been noticed by any one as a monumental stone, until it became a bridge, so that the place of interment remains unknown.

At Chyandour there is a smelting house for tin, where also a very extensive trade is carried on by Messrs. Boli-thoes, to whom the neighbourhood are much indebted for the very great improvements they have made in the embellishments of the scenery.

In this parish two crops of potatoes are produced in the season, through the mildness of the climate. The early sort is planted for the first crop, which is got off time enough for the next to come to maturity before the winter. They plant the kidney potatoe about Christmas, or a few weeks before it, which they draw in May, and plant on the same ground the apple potatoe. A gentleman of Marazion had by this management, in the first crop, from one acre, 100 Cornish bushels of twenty-four gallons each, and in the second crop, 200 bushels: so that from one Cornish acre, which is one acre and one fifth statute measure, he produced 900 Winchester bushels of potatoes in one year. The cultivation of potatoes upon a large scale is strongly recommended, and the use of the oreweed as an excellent manure for them.

Gulval contains 3950 acres, 248 houses, and 1224 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



GUNWALLOE.

This parish is about three miles south of Helston; its principal villages are Beripper and Chiverloe. In the year 1294, it had acquired the appellation of Win-Wallo; and in the inquisition of Wolsey it was presented in consolidation with Breage, Germoe, and Cury, by the name of the vicarage of Wynn-an-ton: a name which Hals refers to the conquests of Gunwallo or Dunwallo, who he represents as a famous warrior, and a powerful king of Cornwall. To confirm this opinion, he adverts to the remains of some ancient fortifications which were noticed by Camden, as a large circle or camp called Earth or Caerth, which signifies castle or city. This is described as consisting of some rude and unwrought stones, about five feet high, placed

together in orbicular order, as a wall without mortar or lime, after the manner of a British camp.

The manor of Wynyanton, which formerly gave name to the parish, belonged at a very early period to the crown, but is now the property of John Rogers, Esq. of Penrose.

At Gunwalloe fishing cove, during the season, several pilchard seines are kept, with a proportionable number of men; but of late years they have been very unsuccessful.

Some short time since J. Rogers, Esq. of Penrose, granted permission to a company of adventurers, for the purpose of searching for dollars, which in all probability an immense quantity are hidden among the rocks near the church, but the speculation did not prove advantageous to the adventurers.

Gunwalloe contains 1175 acres, 49 houses, and 206 inhabitants: is in the hundred of Kirrier.

GWENNAP.

This large and populous parish is about six miles from Truro, about four from Penryn, and three from Redruth. Exclusive of the church town, the principal village in this parish is St. Day, generally called St. Dye, and this is also both large and populous. Whether St. Day was formerly a distinct parish, seems rather uncertain; though it must be admitted, that many have contended in favor of it, on grounds of strong probability. It is certain however, that St. Day had formerly a church of its own: and it has been conjectured, that some part of Kenwyn has been annexed to it; but in the course of time it was finally dismembered and incorporated in the adjacent parishes. Norden mentions the ancient religious edifice of St. Day, which, he says, "was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and was so

famous in times past, that men and women resorted thither on pilgrimage." This circumstance induced the inhabitants to expose various articles for sale, which in time grew to a kind of market, without any charter, and continued until his days. It has been of late years again revived by the exertions of John Williams, Esq. of Scorrier House, for the accommodation of the neighbouring miners. It is now regularly held on Saturday, and is well supplied with every necessary of life, corn excepted. Here is also a very extensive business carried on by Mr. Colan Harvey. There are now no traces of its ancient religious building; but the tower was taken down so recently as the year 1780. This chapel was dedicated to St. Day or Dye of Gaul, who, in the fifth century, was famous for his opposition to heretical doctrines, and for his piety and austerity of manners. From his tutelar guardian of the demolished church or chapel, this village has obtained its present name.

But whatever antiquity may be attributed to St. Day, in connexion with its ancient chapel, it is certain that Gwennap is a name of no modern date. It was known at the time of the Norman Conquest, and as such this district was rated in Domesday; but whether St. Day was then included in it is rather uncertain. Hals, speaking of this name, says, that it implies "white, light, bright, or clear son; the church being dedicated to God in honour of his Son, in opposition to Arianism." Others however, discarding this derivation, assert, that the church is dedicated to a female saint named Wenap or Wenepe; but the memorials of her life are involved in much obscurity; history having neither recorded her virtues, nor fixed the time in which they were displayed. One circumstance still remains to mark the original distinction between Gwennap and St. Day. The feast of the former is held on Whit-

sunday, but that of the latter is four weeks following. St. Day and Gwennap are now in every respect one parish; and by those who doubt, if as parishes they were distinct, it is uniformly understood, that the religious edifice at St. Day was nothing more than a chapel of ease to Gwennap, and that its superior fame arose from the accidental circumstance of pilgrims resorting thither to visit a church or chapel to which superstition had annexed some ideas of peculiar sanctity.

The manor of Pensignance, by which name the parish at one period is said to have been designated, was for many years possessed by the Carews of Antony. This was occasionally the residence of Richard Carew the historian. Norden calls it "the howse and manor of Richard Carew, Esq.;" but he says, "his most abode is at Antony."

Pengreep is enveloped with beautiful trees and shrubs, having fine gardens and spacious ponds, is the family seat of the Beauchamps.

Trevince is a beautiful but sequestered seat in this parish, held on lease by Michael Williams, Esq.

Burncoose is the seat of John Williams, jun. Esq. who is an excellent chemist, has one of the best collections of Cornish minerals to be found in any part of the west of England. To these he has added many beautiful specimens of foreign productions. They are arranged with much care; and are open to the inspection of every gentleman of taste.

Scorrier House, the seat of John Williams, Esq. is situated about two miles from Redruth, a little on the right of the public road leading from that town to Truro. Some portions of the plantations, raised by the industry to this gentleman, are conspicuous to the traveller, as he passes along over a dreary surface, that seems like the seat

of desolation. But from this barren waste Mr. Williams has rescued a part, which, by unremitting efforts, is now transformed into valuable meadow land. The grounds around his handsome abode are cultivated with much care; and the plantations, which flourish with equal luxuriance, unite to furnish the kind and worthy family with pleasing views, that in no small degree compensate for the deficiency of distant picturesque beauty. If the Man of Ross—

“Whom portioned maids, apprenticed orphans bless’d,
The young who labour, and the old who rest,”

deserved to be immortalized by the pen of a celebrated poet, for his humanity and benevolent virtues, the name of John Williams, Esq. of Scorrier House, ought not to be passed by unnoticed in a historical survey of Cornwall. This gentleman has not commanded fleets or armies, and swelled the national triumphs at the expence of human blood; but he has found means to furnish thousands with employment, and their families with bread. By his unremitting industry during the last forty years, he has acquired much celebrity as a scientific miner, and is alike distinguished for his enterprising spirit, and his successful adventures. About 10,000 persons are employed under his management; and a sum amounting to upwards of a million, passes annually through his hands. He has carried his adventures beyond the confines of Cornwall, and displayed the ardour of his spirit in Devonshire and Wales. By all ranks of men he is mentioned with veneration; and when his eyes shall be closed in death, he will be long remembered by his survivors; and both rich and poor will transmit his name to posterity as the miner’s friend.

In this parish is the famed amphitheatre called “Pit.”—The very large and respectable body of people called

Methodists have preaching here yearly. On the Whitmonday several thousands attend from different parts of the county, where two or more sermons are delivered by different ministers. The cavity is very large and has of late years been improved by the formation of grassy hats or stands gradually rising towards the surface. The entrances which are at the opposite sides are secured by an enclosure and gateway. It was first made choice of by the late Rev. John Wesley, (founder of the above sect,) for the purpose of preaching to those multitudes that used to attend his ministry, which no chapel could contain.

The district which now constitutes the parish of Gwennap, has been from time immemorial famous for its mines. Dr. Borlase says, that the greatest and most sudden gain, that in his days was ever known to arise from any mine, was derived from Wheal Virgin in this parish. This was in the months of July and August, 1757. During the first fortnight, the quantity of copper ore raised was sold for £5,700; and during the next three weeks and two days, the quantity raised amounted to £9,600. But since the days of Dr. Borlase, Gwennap has furnished several mines which have been occasionally more productive.

The principal mines in this parish are the following:

The United Mines are of long standing. The adventure has been prosecuted with various success at different times; and, owing to the immense charge of drawing the water, it was once abandoned, but it was recommenced with one of Messrs. Boulton and Watt's new improved steam-engines, to which some additions were afterwards made by the late Mr. Jonathan Hornblower, of Penryn. The mines still continue rich and abundant in ores, but owing to the great expences invariably attendant on deep mines, and the fluctuating standard of fine copper, much disadvantage

is sustained by the adventurers. Upwards of 1000 persons of both sexes are employed on these mines.

Wheal Garland is partly in the manor of St. Day, in Gwennap. While the water was freely raised from this mine, it yielded some of the richest malleable and crystalized copper ever produced in the county; some of the latter, from its brilliancy and the variety of its colours, was much sought after for specimens, and will long remain treasured up in the cabinets of the curious.—The expence, however, attendant on the working of two steam-engines, being found much greater than the returns made by the tin and copper, the working at the bottom is now discontinued, and only thirty or forty men are employed, who work in the upper parts of the mine. By the adoption of these measures, the adventurers have, for some time past, received profit.

Tresavean is situated on the south side of the road leading from Penryn to Redruth. The early working of this mine brought much profit to the adventurers, who shared many thousands of pounds. The subsequent working has not been so advantageous, and attended with many difficulties, which being further increased by the lodes becoming both hard and poor, occasioned the stopping of the steam-engine, and there are now only a few hands employed above the adit.

Wheal Unity is divided by the road leading from Chacewater to St. Day. About thirty-four years since, some poor men worked in this mine for the purpose of procuring tin, when they made such discoveries as led to the prosecution of this mine. Few undertakings of a similar nature produced so much profit to the adventurers, for a series of years, as this has done; nor can any mine be mentioned in which a greater share of mechanical ingenuity

has been displayed. The workings, however, being now deep, and consequently attended with additional and heavy expence, and the standard for fine copper very fluctuating, little profit can be at present expected.

Treskerby is on the west of Wheal Vor; it has hitherto proved a fortunate adventure, and the prospects it offers for the future are cheering.

Wheal Virgin, and Wheal Beauchamp, are near the road leading from Gwennap church town to Redruth. Each of these mines has afforded more speculation than profit to the adventurers, who, after expending considerable sums of money, have stopped the workings.

Wheal Friendship is adjoining Nanjiles, (which is in the parish of Key). Great expence has been incurred here in erecting a steam-engine and searching for copper ores; but as no large quantities have been produced after long perseverance, the working is in a great measure suspended.

Wheal Fortune lies to the west of Wheal Friendship. This mine commenced working about thirty years since, and for a considerable time it was attended with more loss than profit to the adventurers, but by perseverance they were amply compensated, although the mine is now abandoned. The ores it produced were not of the finest quality, but so much as 1000 tons have been raised in two months; and no doubt can be entertained that had it not been for the great expence required in raising the immense quantities of water which surrounded and inundated the mine, it would have continued to work with much advantage to the adventurers. By its stoppage, upwards of 400 persons were thrown out of employment.

The Consolidated Mines are bounded on the east by Wheal Fortune. The name is derived from the union of Wheal Virgin, West Wheal Virgin, Wheal Maid, and other

Mines, which, being situated near each other, and some of them supplying large quantities of copper ore, it was thought that their consolidation would be of peculiar advantage to the adventurers. The undertaking involved an extent and expenditure equal, perhaps, to any in the county; but the expected success did not result from the union; and the workings being deep, and the water-charge very considerable, the undertaking was discontinued, by which means 1000 persons were discharged. This concern, however, as well as Wheal Fortune, seems reserved for future operations.

The New Consols adjoin the last-mentioned mines, near East Wheal Virgin. Considerable quantities of copper have been raised here, but the progress of the adventurers in sinking being circumscribed by the adit, this concern affords but little employment, and offers no great share of speculation.

Wheal Damsel is also in this parish. Previous to the peace, and before the standard of fine copper had so greatly diminished, the adventurers in this mine divided considerable profits; but owing to the above causes, combining with other circumstances, loss has been sustained, and it has been found necessary to appeal to the lords for an abatement of dues, &c. This mine stands on an elevated piece of ground, about five miles west of Wheal Falmouth; the intermediate space is principally filled with mines; and a few years since, this extensive range exhibited every mark of cheerful industry; but now nothing strikes the eye of the observer but poverty and inaction!

Wheal Squire is bounded on the west by the United Mines. This mine, in its former working, produced some rich specimens of copper ores, but the quantity was so little, that it was found inadequate to meet the cost, and the

adventure was abandoned. It has, however, been recently resumed, and a new steam-engine has been erected ; but it is impossible at present, to speak with certainty as to the results, though the prospects are very flattering.

Ting-Tang is on the north-west of Wheal Squire. Large sums of money have been expended on the old mine, and one of the first steam-engines erected in the county on Boulton and Watt's plan, was placed here to facilitate the discoveries of the workmen ; but the lodes proving unfavourable, the former concern was abandoned. A new lode was discovered some time since, to the southward of the old mine, and a steam-engine has been employed upon it. Some good parcels of ores have been raised and sold here, and the late appearances are flattering to the adventurers.

Wheal Clinton takes its name from the nobleman on whose land it is situated. It is about half a mile north of St. Day. A steam-engine was erected on this mine some years since, and copper ores were raised in small quantities ; but the returns proving wholly insufficient to balance the costs, the materials were sold, and the mine was abandoned.

Wheal Jewel is on the south of St. Day. For some years this mine gave the adventurers a considerable share of profit ; but the water-charge becoming heavy, and the lodes being much impoverished, it was deemed expedient to stop further proceedings, by which means upwards of 300 persons were discharged. There are now only a few hands on it, who are employed above the adit.

Poldice is on the south of Wheal Unity, from which it is only separated by a narrow slip of land. Until late years these adventures were carried on separately, till the pressure of some local circumstances rendered a coalition indispensable. Of the early working of Poldice little remains on

record, though there are many corroborating evidences of its having been worked for tin at a remote period. Copper ores and tin have been abundantly produced by this mine formerly, yielding the adventurers a rich reward; but water that enemy to deep mines, having increased here to an unmanageable degree, all the engines have been stopped, except one, which continues to work in order to prevent the water from finding its way into Wheal Unity. A few men are employed here still, but they are chiefly such as pay to the adventurers a stipulated *tribute*.

Tolcarn is on the south of the road leading from St. Day to Redruth. It has been worked for tin for a considerable time; but the produce being neither large in quantity nor rich in quality, the profits to the adventurers have hitherto been small.

Wheal Spinster lies on the north of Wheal Damsel, and to the west of St. Day. This mine, like many others in Gwennap, is under the directions of John Williams, Esq. and his sons. Copper ores have been raised here, and considerable profit has been made; and at this time, appearances are not unfavourable.

Wheal Hope adjoins the former mine, and is under the management of the same gentlemen. It is productive of copper ores.

Wheal Vor lies near the seventh mile-stone on the road leading from Truro to Redruth. It formerly was very fortunate to the adventurers, producing much copper ore, while the expence of raising the water was moderate. As the mine is extending itself to the east, there seems a probability that it will be followed into the adjoining parish of Kenwyn.

Scorrier, which adjoins Wheal Fat, in the parish of Kenwyn, was worked conjointly with that mine about

thirty-six years since. Scorrier, at that time, yielded copper ores, but not in sufficient quantities to balance the expence of raising them. The adventure has therefore been stopped.

East Wheal Fortune mine has of late years produced a considerable quantity of copper, though the lode is chiefly composed of black jack or zinc, mixed with mundic, from which large quantities of zinc have been extracted. The lode varies from six to eighteen inches in width.

Some years since, all the mineral rights of copper, lead, &c. in the dutchy manors were purchased for thirty-one years, by John Williams, Esq. of Scorrier House, Robert Were Fox, Esq. of Falmouth, Charles Carpenter, Esq. of Moditonham, and others. Since that time the same spirited adventurers, with Benjamin Tucker, Esq. surveyor, of the dutchy, have obtained a lease which secures to them the right of searching for silver in the whole manor of Calstock. This was procured in consequence of some silver lodes having been discovered in this manor early in the same year, 1811. Some attempts have not long since been made to raise this valuable ore; but although one mine has been productive, having yielded the value of about £5000, this has not been sufficient to defray the expence of working it in its early stages, before this discovery was made.

In the year 1754 a society in London offered a premium of £30 for the best specimen of cobalt that could be procured in England. This premium was awarded to a sample that was sent from a mine at Pengreep, in this parish. But this, though considered the best in England, was not so pure as what was imported from foreign countries. And even to the present time, although cobalt has been raised in several other places in Cornwall, its universal impurity has caused this country to draw its supplies from foreign.

markets. It is to this fine semi-metal that we are indebted for the beautiful blue tints with which the enamel of porcelain, the painting on glass, and various other works of art are enriched. In the preparations of linens, muslins, threads, laces, and cloths, it is also of essential service.

Among the general customs, we must not forget the manly exercise of wrestling, which is more generally practised in this parish than in any other in the county. The Cornish have been remarkable for their expertness in athletic contentions for many ages. To what cause this may be attributed it is difficult to determine. According to fabulous tradition, they have inherited this athletic skill from Corinæus, who overthrew Gog-Magog. Others have conjectured, that these trials of skill and vigour, were first introduced by the Greeks, when in distant ages they traded to Cornwall for tin.

Gwennap contains 5289 acres, 1012 houses, and 5303 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



GWINEAR.

The parish of Gwinear is generally understood to have derived its name from a celebrated saint called Fingarus, who reached the Cornish shores from Ireland about the same time that Breaca and Germochus visited our pagan ancestors.

Gwinear is about seven miles to the north-west of Helston, about the same distance south-west from Redruth, and about three from Camborne. The principal villages in this parish are Cossawsin, Cattebedran, Drannock, Frad-dam, Penhale, Tregortha, and Wall.

The barton of Lanyon. Hals, speaking of the family of

Lanyon, says, that "they came first into England with Isabel wife of Edward II. and settled themselves in those parts; among which, Lanyon's posterity have ever since flourished in genteel degree, between a justice of the peace, and a hundred constable." The elder branch of the Lanyon family is become extinct; but the descendants of the younger still continue. Of this younger branch Mr Tobias Lanyon, surgeon of Camborne, is the present representative; by whose younger brothers the estate is still occupied.

Gwinear, in common with all other parishes in the mining district, produces its share of subterranean treasure. In the year 1800, four productive copper mines were working in this parish, and some others still continue to furnish this and other valuable metals. From Herland mine, native silver, vitrious silver, and silver ore, have been raised in former years in considerable quantities, which afforded a profit of £5000. But the quantity diminishing, it was found that the produce was insufficient to defray the expence, and the workings were abandoned. This mine was again commenced by a set of London and other adventurers, but at present it has ceased working, owing to some misunderstanding between the adventurers; it is expected the whole workings will soon be resumed. On this mine Mr. Trevithick constructed his new and much improved steam-engine. Using only a third part of its steam, it went thirteen strokes (each stroke being ten feet and half) per minute, and at each stroke is raised ninety-two gallons of water, being 1,722,240 gallons per hour; to perform which it only consumed about two bushels of coals. The size of the cylinder is thirty-three inches. The value of the improvement may best be appreciated by the statement of the fact, that an engine of the same size, on Boulton and Watt's

plan, whilst consuming the same quantity of coals, and working at the very extent of its power, cannot perform a fifth part of the duty. Mr. Trevithick is now in South America, with other natives of this country, working the silver mines.

Wheal Hope copper mine is a very promising adventure, and if fairly prosecuted will no doubt soon reimburse the adventurers the cost incurred.

Wheal Carpenter copper mine is also in this parish, and from present appearances she is likely to make a good mine.

Near Wall, Mr. Vivian has an iron hammer mill.

Gwinear contains 3882 acres, 373 houses, and 1952 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



GWITHIAN.

This parish is rendered famous for the great and princely manor of Conerton, which is denominated from this district, and for the accumulation of sand which for several ages has deluged a considerable portion of its territory.

Leland, speaking of a parish, which he calls Nikenor, evidently means Gwithian as appears from his own concluding expression; and from his statement we cannot but infer that it formerly had a town of some considerable magnitude. He says, "Nikenor, a 2 miles from Ryvier, sumtyme a great towne, now gone; 2 paroch chirches yet seene, a good deal several on (one) from the other, sumtyme in the towne, but it is now commonly taken to be St. Guivians paroch." Upon what authority Leland relied for his information, it is difficult to say. But it is evident from his own language, that two parish churches were

standing in his day ; and that, although they were at a distance from each other, yet according to popular opinion, they were "sumtyme in the towne." It is also indisputably certain, that many houses have been buried at different times in the accumulating sands, and that a considerable tract of land which is now desolated by their encroachments, was formerly the seat of vegetable fertility.

At what period this deluge of sand began to make inroads upon the soil, no memorials are sufficiently explicit to inform us with certainty.

Mr. Whitaker, alluding to the sands which have desolated vast tracts of land on the northern coast of Cornwall, "they all come from the west, and are found upon examination to be merely the shells of the ocean reduced to powder by collision between the waves and the rocks, then thrown up by the tides upon the beach, and finally blown by the winds upon the fields." In some of the old valors the rectory of Gwithian is rated much higher than many parishes then were, that are now vastly superior to it in value ; which circumstance seems to furnish a presumptive evidence that the lands of this parish have undergone some great alteration, much to the disadvantage of the whole district. And among some old papers belonging to the Arundell family, mention is said to be made of a disaster thus occasioned, so early as the twelfth century. But independently of these ancient torrents, it is well known by oral tradition, that whole farms have been overwhelmed at a period not very remote. And in particular, a barton called Upton, which was one of the principal farms in the parish, though now buried in the sands, was remembered by the great grandfather of the rector, Mr. Hocken, to be inhabited. This is said to have been so suddenly overwhelmed during one tempestuous night, that the inhabitants were obliged to

escape at the chamber window; shortly after which the house disappeared. It is remarkable, that this house, which had not been seen by the oldest man living, made its appearance in 1808-9, on the sudden shifting of the moving torrent. It was visited by many as a subject of singular curiosity; but it has since been concealed from observation. The present rector remembers two fields to have been buried ten or twelve feet deep, in this parish; but what losses have been sustained in the habitations that have been buried in former ages, remain totally unknown. We have already remarked, that Leland spoke of two parish churches which were extant in his days, early in the sixteenth century; and the remains of one fifty-six feet long, by eighteen wide, has lately been discovered on Angarrack estate, the property of Mr. Richard Hocken. The sand at Gonnorwartha and Godrevey in many places cements, and forms such durable substances as to be used in building. Godrevey Island, or Gull Rock, is supposed to have formerly been connected with the main land.

To what extent the fatal effects of these sands would have run, if some timely expedient had not been found to check the progress of the torrent, it is impossible to say. The church town was in much danger; and would probably have shared in the growing calamity, if the inhabitants had not, with all possible expedition, planted in these sands the common sea rush, in which this district happily abounds. This rush, by spreading its long and fibrous roots among the moving heaps, has fortunately arrested their progress, and thus in some degree rescued from the barren waste certain portions that are again covered with verdure, and turned into useful dairy ground.

In this parish, at a place called Trevarnon-Rounds, are the remains of an ancient fortification or earth-work. It

consists of a moat and rampart, with an advanced work. To assign the period of its origin is perhaps scarcely possible; but from the circumstance of a cannon ball having been dug up within its site during the present generation, it appears to have been occupied by some military force since the invention of these implements of destruction.

Although a considerable portion of the lands once belonging to the manor of Conerton have been alienated, by which means its privileges have been less numerous, and its jurisdiction far less extensive than formerly, its dominion is still considerable. In former ages, it claimed by prescription, not only the royalties and jurisdiction within its limits, but also over the whole hundred of Penwith. This was the *head tree* of the cantred, which contained twenty-six parishes. Hence, this manor was privileged, not only with the jurisdiction of a court-leet for itself, but also with a court-leet for the whole hundred of Penwith; within which two courts were tried all matters of debt, and trespass, and damage, between party and party within the same, life and limb excepted. In these courts vast numbers of causes sometimes depended, in consequence of this manor being situated so remote from Westminster. The judge of these courts was generally the same person who took his deputation from the lord of the manor, and not from the king or duke of Cornwall's steward, as was the case with other bailiwicks.

The family of Arundell having possessed this princely manor for many ages, engrossed to themselves all those privileges which distinguished its jurisdiction. But as the members of this family have always professed the religion of the church of Rome, their right to present to the churches, originally in the crown, could not have been

exercised since the Reformation ; and it is probable, that either the crown or the Duke of Cornwall, may on this account have made presentations to the vacant livings within the hundred. Privileges and rights so honourable and extensive, conferring on the possessor, as Camden observed, the appellation of "Great," could not but excite jealousies in those, who, under the grants, and the confirmations of them, were considered as dependant lords, on the lord of the hundred ; and hence, on account of the casual profits from wrecks, &c. many have been the devices and plans proposed and practised to circumscribe them. At one time, the attorney general, at the instigation of some interested or invidious person, demanded by his legal inquisitorial authority of *quo warranto*, the owner's claim to such extensive rights. And on several occasions the usurping lords, taking advantage of the supineness of the lord of the hundred, or the negligence of his steward in watching their privileges, have exercised rights to which they had no claim. Hence by being permitted to seize an estray, or to secure a part of a wreck on the coast without interruption, they have been led to deny the legal authority of the lord of the hundred. But whenever an invasion of these rights has led to a legal investigation of them, the result in almost every instance, has confirmed the paramount claim of the lord.

By virtue of these vast privileges, the lord of this manor or hundred, had the right of appointing a judge to try all causes of trespass or debt, to fix a gaoler, who should detain prisoners apprehended by the process of the court ; the right to all royalties of navigable rivers and havens ; to present to all such churches as were, previous to the grant of Henry II. in the crown, and not afterwards alienated by the family ; to the royal mines of gold and silver ; to

wrecks, escheats, deodands, treasure trove, waifs, estrays, goods of felons, and to droits of admiralty happening thereon ; and finally, to receive from several of the owners or principal lords of manors within its limits, such fee-farm or high rent as should become due.

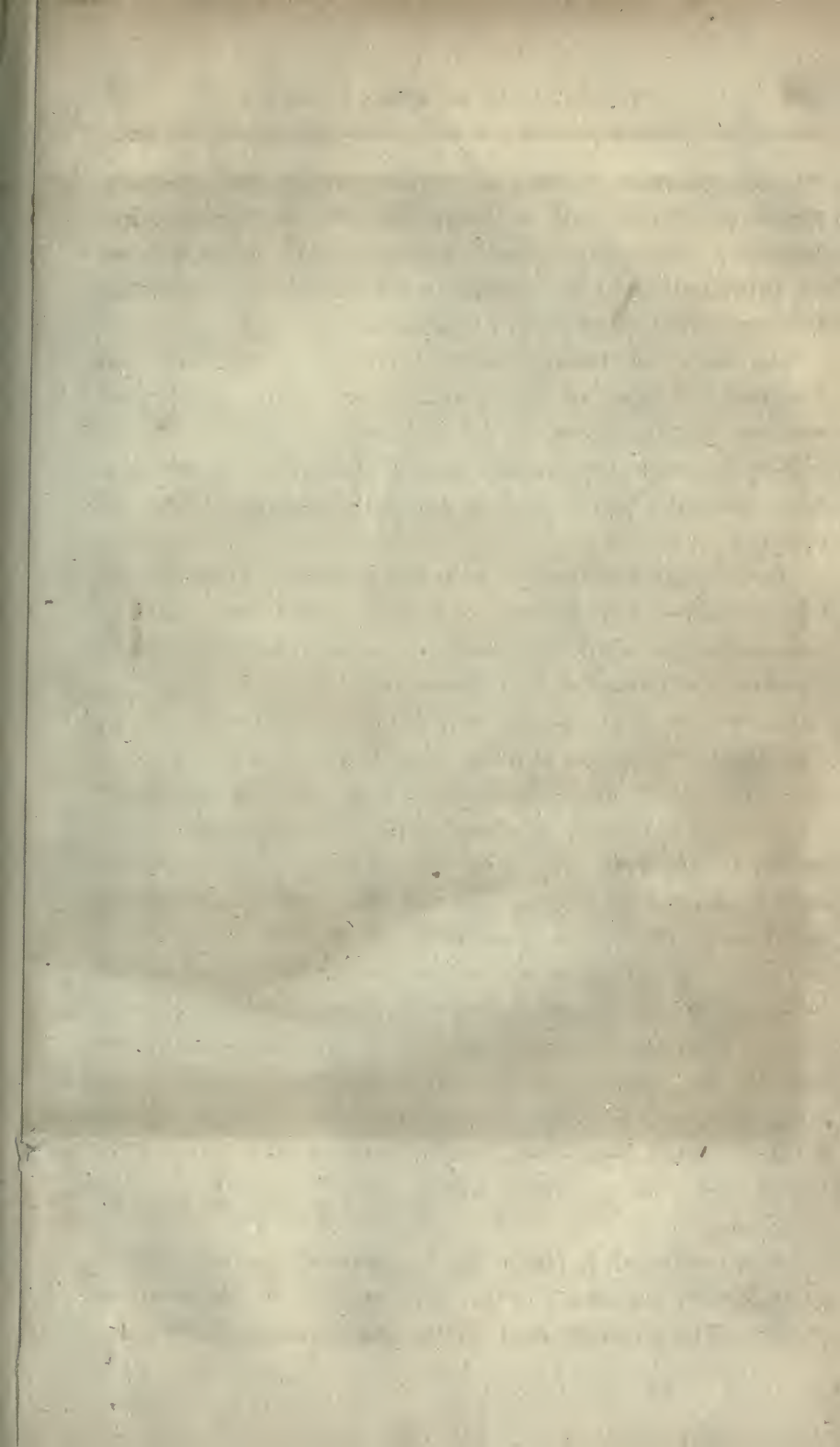
But many of these ancient privileges have been lost through the lapse of ages ; and others have disappeared with the diminution of the ancient lands.

Not far from the present parish church is the site of a very ancient chapel ; but of the buildings there are no remains.

On the island of Godrevey stands the ruins of a chapel which existed long before the church, and was probably one of the first places of religious worship, after the introduction of Christianity into this county.

In the year 1741, an urn was found about half a mile to the south-west of the church town, the sea having washed away a piece of the cliff, discovered about three feet under the common surface of the land, a small cavity about twenty inches wide, nearly the same in height, and covered over with stone. The bottom was only one flat stone, on which was placed an urn with its mouth downwards, which, on being taken up, was found to be full of human bones, of which the vertebræ were very distinct. Round the urn was found a small quantity of dust or earth, which had all the appearance of human ashes, and filled the lower part of the cavity about four inches high from the bottom. That these were human remains no doubt can be entertained ; but to what nation they belonged is very uncertain.

Gwithian parish is famed for the sweetest mutton, which is uniformly estimated to be produced from the smallest sheep. These usually feed on the open common, and even





Engraved by J. Shury.

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na. September 1815.

from a Sketch by M. P. Moyle.

VIEW OF HELSTON.

Respectful, the Mayor and
 Burgesses of Helston.

Their Obedient humble Servant, W. Peneluna.



fatten in some places where the grassy sod seems scarcely sufficient to cover the barren sands. Their nourishment in these places is attributed to a small species of snail, bred in the sands, and issuing forth in the dewy mornings in search of food. The sheep are said to lick them up with their scanty pasture, and find in them a degree of nutrition which the stunted vegetation of the surface cannot afford. These sheep are remarkable for the elegance of their form, and the smallness of their tails and bones.

From the MSS. of Mr. Scawen it is stated that in the year 1676, a woman in the parish of Gwithian, died at the advanced age of 164 years. It is to be regretted that no entry of this woman's age and burial has been made in the parish register. But she is well known by tradition among the inhabitants. Her name was Cheston Marchant; and she is said by her memorialists to have had a new set of teeth and new hair in her old age; from which, travellers who visited her from curiosity, frequently carried off a lock. She knew no language but the Cornish, and for many years prior to her death was confined to her bed.

Gwithian contains 2249 acres, 72 houses, and 372 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



HELSTON.

This town having formerly been connected with an ancient castle, which once stood where the bowling-green now is, has always been a place of considerable fame in the records of antiquity.

The town, growing up under its auspices, enjoyed many privileges in various periods, which the inhabitants contrived to preserve when the ancient castle was mouldering to decay. Helston has at different times received no less

than sixteen charters ; in all of which some privilege has been either granted, confirmed, or augmented.

The first of these charters is said to have been bestowed by king John in the year 1201, by which the town was made a free borough, and was granted the liberty of having a guild-mercatory. Besides this merchant's guild, the inhabitants were to be exempt from paying toll in any place except the city of London ; were to be impleaded nowhere but in their own borough ; and were to enjoy all the other privileges of the burgesses of Launceston Castle. These favors were purchased for a fine of forty marks and one palfrey ; and in Domesday Book the demesne is said to be held of the king of England by the townsmen, under a certain quit-rent of £13 6s. 8*d.* which they pay for the toll, mills, and thirty-three acres of land adjoining, to hold in fee-farm according to charter. By Edward I. Helston was made one of the coinage towns for the county ; and the privilege of sending two members to parliament, was conferred on the inhabitants by the same monarch. In the reign of Edward III. all the preceding grants were confirmed, with the additional privilege of holding a weekly market, and four annual fairs, together with the liberty of erecting as many mills as they found necessary, upon the western side of the town contiguous to the river.

But whatever privileges were originally granted to this town, there is no doubt that they were acknowledged and confirmed anew by Elizabeth, in the year 1585, to whose charter, in all doubtful cases, all appeals were formerly made. By this charter the borough was either incorporated, or its incorporation was confirmed, under the name of Helleston ; and its government was vested in a mayor, four aldermen, recorder, town clerk, and twenty-four freemen. This charter continued in force until the year

1774, when the number being reduced to four aldermen and eight freemen, a new charter was obtained, which determined the corporation to consist of a mayor, five aldermen, a recorder, and an indefinite number of freemen. But this new charter being made to the disadvantage of the old corporators, six of them resisted its authority, and actually returned the two members to parliament on their original ground. These legalized oppositions produced some very singular law proceedings, which finally led to an appeal to the house of commons; the committee of which decided in favour of the members returned under the charter of Elizabeth, and thus virtually declared the new one of 1774 to be null and void.

Sanctioned by the authority of parliament, the decreasing number of corporators continued to exercise their rights until the whole power became concentrated in one person only, and by his single voice both members were actually returned. A second appeal to the committee of the house was the immediate consequence of this unprecedented return. The decision now was directly opposite to the former; and the members that had been returned under the charter of 1774 were declared to be legal. From that time to the present this charter is the only one that has been in force.

A few years since, either through the violence of adverse parties, or through some irregularities in the proceedings of this borough, its privileges were brought into serious danger; and in the year 1814 a bill was before parliament for altering the right of election, and for extending it to all the freeholders of Kirrier and Penwith. The bill however, though sanctioned by the house of commons, was finally thrown out by the house of lords, and Helston still continues to enjoy its very ancient privileges, under certain limitations

which were formerly unknown. The mayor at present is elected by a majority of the aldermen and freemen, from two aldermen whom the mayor and aldermen unanimously nominate. In the early part of the last century, the number of freemen was eighty, seventy of whom resided in the town, and ten were non-residents; the number now is eighty-nine. For many ages past the patronage of this ancient borough was in the family of the Godolphins; but on the extinction of that celebrated name, it became vested in the Duke of Leeds, who has withdrawn his patronage.

Helston is a large and populous town. It lies on the great road leading from London to the Land's End, and about half way between Falmouth and Penzance. Its position is on the side of a hill, which gently declines towards the west, and terminates on the margin of a vale, through which the little river Cober runs to the Loe Pool. The houses are chiefly ranged along on four principal streets, which cross each other at nearly right angles. They are wide and well paved, and having a stream of water running through them, which carries to the vale below the filth that would otherwise collect, are kept in general remarkably clean. Near the centre of the town is a large and commodious market-house, over which is the town hall. This building which is very strong, was erected, according to a date which it exhibits, in the year 1576. Helston is one of the ancient coinage towns; and its old coinage hall formerly stood in the middle of the main street; with this was connected a prison, and a dwelling house inhabited by an officer of the dutchy, to which the manor until of late belonged. Within a few years these public buildings have been demolished, and a house sufficient for every purpose that this department of the dutchy requires, has been erected in a more accommodating situation at the extremity

of the street, which still retains the name of Coinage Hall Street.

The form which Helston at present exhibits, represents a cross, the principal streets meeting at a common centre. But if the tales of tradition may be thought worthy of any credit, the town in ancient times stood all along on the banks of the Cober, which, though now a meandering stream, was then a fine navigable river, and spread around the whole priory of St. John's, which is still well known in name. Whether Helston was ever a sea port, seems very uncertain. This is a question which the report of tradition determines in the affirmative; but the authority on which it rests is very dubious. It is certain that the Loe Pool has been a lake for many generations; and no genuine records have ever been discovered, which assert or intimate, that it has not always been so from time immemorial. Even the custom which prevails, of presenting the lord of the manor with two leathern purses, each containing three half-pence, before the bar of sand lying at its mouth can be broken, is so very ancient, that its origin cannot be traced. Nothing however, but the earth and sand, and other loose materials which now choke the vale, prevents it from becoming a spacious harbour that would rival many of high repute.

Near this town stand the ruins of an old camp or intrenchment, called Castle Were, or the castle of war; an old fort or citadel to defend the town.

The arms of this town are, a castle or house garreted on its top, between two watch towers; the archangel Michael fighting with the dragon or the devil. The popular opinion however, is, that the town arms represent St. George fighting with the dragon. But this is difficult to be conceived, as the arms have been seen cut in stones of

great antiquity, in which the shape of a man with wings appears, in which he is fighting with the dragon, between two watch towers or castles. Now we cannot suppose that St. George of Cappadocia should have wings; it must therefore be Michael the archangel fighting with the devil, who in Scripture is called *the dragon* and *the great red dragon* also. From the Liber Regis, the chapel of Helston appears to be dedicated to St. Michael. This circumstance explains at once the appearance of St. Michael in the town arms.

The market which is still held in this town on Saturday, and is very considerable, was granted to the inhabitants so early as the year 1336. At a subsequent period, another market was established on Wednesday. The market of Helston may be justly ranked among the principal ones of Cornwall. Its original fairs were coeval with its primitive market. These were four in number, each of which lasted three days. But in these annual marts, some changes have been introduced; and five at present, though held only on one day each, supply the place of the previous four.

The parochial chapel or church of Helston that now stands, and which, like the old church or chapel already noticed, is dedicated to St. Michael, is a neat modern structure. It was erected at the expence of Francis Earl of Godolphin, in the year 1763. This structure has a lofty pinnacled tower, that is pleasingly conspicuous from many places in the vicinity, but particularly so from the vale leading to the bar of sand at the mouth of the Loe Pool; it stands on a rising ground on the north-west side of the town, below which are many elegant houses. Within the church is a memorial for the family of Rogers, originally of Treassowe in Ludgvan, but now of Penrose; and also for the families of Millett, Penberthy, and Moor. It is also

embellished with a handsome altar-piece, expressive of Christ derided. This was painted by Mr. Lane of Helston; was the gift of Lord de Dunstanville. The church-yard contains a melancholy memorial of twenty-one persons, who were unfortunately drowned off Porthleven, while out in a boat on pleasure on Midsummer Day, in the year 1788.

Within the town, the Wesleyan Methodists have a large and commodious chapel. The Baptists also have a chapel that is neat, and conveniently situated. A school for boys on the plan of Dr. Bell, and another for girls, have lately been established; and both the Methodists and Baptists have Sunday schools in their respective chapels. These are supported by voluntary contributions. The tolls arising from the markets, fairs, and mills, form a part of the town revenues. Out of these there is a grammar school endowed with the sum of £13 6s. 8d. This school has been long established. A dispensary was established in the year 1809, from which the distressed poor derive much benefit. The town revenues arising from the markets, fairs, and mills, were originally granted by Richard king of the Romans.

Within the memory of many persons now in this town, a large flat stone called Helleston's Rock, lay in the tavern opening, which was cut up for the purpose of building.

Among the injunctions set forth by Edward VI. there was one which directed that all images in churches should be destroyed, as articles of superstition. Pursuant to this injunction, as a Mr. Body, a commissioner for Cornwall, was inspecting the church at Helston, and demolishing some images which remained, one Kilter, or Killtor, of St. Keverne, in company with a priest, stabbed him with a knife, of which he instantly died. The assassin was taken into custody, and sent to London; and being tried and

found guilty at Westminster Hall, was executed at Smithfield. This was a prelude to a general insurrection.

In the borough of Helston, the eighth of May has from time immemorial, been sacred to a singular custom, which is still observed with much ceremony. In ancient times this pagan festival, which is denominated *The Furry Day*, was celebrated at Penryn on the third of May, and at the Lizard not many years since, on the first of the same month, and also in the parish of Sithney; but it is only in Helston that the custom has survived the revolutions of time.

The morning is ushered in by the music of drums, fifes, violins, and other pleasant sounds. About eight o'clock, the revellers commence their general collection from house to house, singing the following parts of a song:—

Ro—bin—Hood—and—little—John

They—both—are gone—to—Fair—O—

And we—will to—the merry—green wood

To see—what they—do—there—O—

And—for—to—chase—O—

To chase—the Buck—and—Doe

With—Ha—lan—tow

Jolly rumble—O

And we—were up—as soon—as a—ny Day—O—

And for—to fetch—the Sum—mer home

The Sum—mer—and—the—May—O—

For Sum—mer—is—a—come—O—

And Win—ter—is—a—go—O—

Where—as—those—Spani—ards

That make—so great—a—Boast—O—

They shall eat—the grey—Goose Feather

And we—will eat—the—Roast—O—

In—cv—ry—Land—O—

The Land—that ere—we—go—

With—Ha—lan—tow, &c.

About the middle of the day the dance begins by different parties, decorated with flowers and oak branches in their hats and caps ; from which till dusk, they dance hand in hand through the streets to the sound of their musical instruments playing a particular tune, claiming a right to go through any person's house, in at one door and out at the other. These parties consist of various classes, ages, and distinctions.

In the evening a select party of ladies and gentlemen assemble at the ball-room, and continue the dance till a late hour.

The word Furry is derived from the old Cornish word *Fer*, a fair or jubilee, which seems probable, from the expression in the Furry song—"They both are gone to Fair O."

Among the general customs of Cornwall may be reckoned hurling. This exercise is continued yearly at Helston, on the day of renewing the bounds of the borough, which is contended by the different young men and boys of the four streets. The success depends on catching the ball dexterously, when thrown up, or *dealt*, and carrying it off expeditiously, in spite of all opposition from the adverse party, or if this is impossible, throw it into the hands of a partner, who, in his turn uses his utmost efforts to carry it to the goal. This sport requires a nimble hand, a quick eye, a swift foot, and skill in wrestling, as well as powerful strength. In the evening the wrestling takes place in the Lower Green, between the country and towns young men.

In the mode of wrestling Cornwall differs considerably from other counties, no kicks are admitted, and the whole contest is fair and manly. The athletic exercise of wrestling thrives rather than diminishes in the eastern part of Cornwall, and continual contests occur between the Cornish

and Devonshire heroes ; but, at present the honours of the day appear in favour of the Cornish. The Cornish hug is still peculiar to Cornwall.

Helston Black Downs ; this once barren spot having been leased in lots for cultivation, begins to shew its splendour in cottages, &c. and if continued with the same spirit of improvement it will soon vie with its neighbouring enclosures.

Norden says, "Goongoose, a mountain by the sea-side, near Helston, signifying the hill of blood. There are ancient marks of martial acts (as trenches of defence and hills of burials) perhaps between the Britons and Saxons."

The most considerable and most interesting lake in Cornwall is the Loe Pool, lying in an extensive vale, stretching southwards from Helston to the sea.

The river Cober enters this vale at a stone bridge called St. John's. It is about a mile below this bridge that the waters begin to feel the distant obstruction, and to cover the valley from side to side. Besides this river, the lake receives supplies from several small streams, which tend to augment its waters. The bar of sand and pebbles which thus prevents the combining streams from descending into the sea, is about a quarter of a mile in length. During the summer months the waters which begin to spread about a mile below St. John's Bridge, are considerably below the level of the bar ; through the sands of which they ooze imperceptibly away, to join the ocean ; by which means the quantity that is obstructed preserves a general equilibrium. But in the winter season the whole valley is sometimes so completely covered, that the swelling lake extends above the bridge, so as to obstruct the wheels of the town mills, which are still higher up, and to prevent them from working. During these seasons the water rises

to the brim of the bar at the opposite extremity, and the whole vale presents one vast inundation. The increasing water swelling this lake in every direction, stretches still further up into Penrose Creek on the western side, and Carminow Creek on the eastern side of the lake, and increases the depth of the whole expanse in the same proportion. The depth of the water varies considerably in different parts, being in the summer from ten to twenty, twenty-two, and twenty-six feet. The deepest part is about a furlong and half from the bar, at a place called the Black Rock. From this place the depth gradually declines, from the rising of the sand towards the bar, which forms part of its bed, till at last it terminates in a steep acclivity towards the brim. The cliffs which encircle this lake are of a moderate height. At a place called the Echo Tree, near the old park wall, is a remarkable echo, where the sound is said to be distinctly reverberated fourteen different times.

When the water of this lake rises to such a height as to obstruct the working of the town and Carminow mills, the mayor of Helston, by an ancient custom, applies to the lord of Penrose, who is owner also of the lake, and on sending him two leathern purses, each containing three halfpence, desires leave to cut through the bar,* that the

* Among the numerous Cornish stories, there is one preserved, which states that Tregeagle, who was a gentleman's steward, to whom a debtor had paid a large sum of money, neglected to enter the same on his book. After his death the new steward demanded the sum, of which payment was refused. A lawsuit was the immediate consequence ; but when the cause was brought into court, the supposed debtor contrived to raise the spirit of Tregeagle, and bring him into court. Being questioned concerning the affair in debate, he admitted the payment, and the plaintiff was nonsuited. On retiring from the bar, this singular witness was left behind in court ; the defendant being requested by some gentlemen of the long robe to take him away ; but he

water may be discharged ; which having obtained, men are sent with shovels to the sand, and after opening a passage, through which a small stream issues, the sands fret ; the torrent increases ; every moment widens the gap ; the whole body seems in motion ; and the mighty deluge pours along with irresistible violence. On entering the sea, its conflict with the approaching waves is sublime and terrible ; and presents a spectacle of magnificent horror, which no language can describe. The waves which succeed to each other, obstructed in their passage towards the shore, submit to the superior violence of the enormous river, that seems to cut an awful lane through the hoary deep, and to ride in triumph over every obstacle. At length, after proceeding to a great distance, its force and velocity gradually subside, and the ocean resumes its wonted dominion over "the world of waves."

In its ordinary dimensions, when not swelled by any particular inundation, it is about two miles long, and something more than a furlong wide, covering, by a measurement taken in 1771, when at the lowest, 163 acres of land. In its width there is a considerable irregularity, the water contracting or expanding with the projecting or receding bank and broken rocks with which it is surrounded.

sternly replied, that as he had been at the pains of bringing the evidence, those who complained might take the trouble to remove him.

To consign the spirit to repose was now become an arduous task. Some work of extreme difficulty was thought necessary, to furnish his spirit with employment. He was doomed to remove the sand from a certain cove to another, from which the sea was always sure to return it. In his expedition he either wilfully or accidentally dropped a sackful at the mouth of the Loe Pool, which was then a harbour, in consequence of which the bar was immediately formed. In this place also his voice is said to have been heard in the howlings of the storm, and in the various echoes which resound from the distant hills.

This lake is remarkable for a peculiar and excellent kind of trout,* many of which are driven to sea in the general commotion, when the water is discharged. A great number, however, generally find a safe retreat in the rivulets above, where at that season they retire to lodge their spawn. These replenish the succeeding waters ; and are the sole property of the lord of Penrose ; and without his leave no one has a right to catch them. But of this right, the present proprietor, John Rogers, Esq. has never availed himself, further than was necessary to preserve his exclusive prerogative. Through the benevolence of his disposition, there are few persons who have ever applied to him for liberty to fish in the Loe Pool, who have been denied.

On the practicability of clearing the Loe Pool, of destroying the bar, or of rendering it serviceable to guard the inlet that should lead to the harbour that might be formed within, many speculative opinions have been entertained, and many calculations formed. But whatever the result of speculation has been, the whole valley still remains in a state of nature. The advantages to Helston and the adjacent country, resulting from such an undertaking, are too obvious to require any animadversions ; and the benefits to be derived from it by ship-owners, are incalculable. At present, the harbour forming at Porthleven must in some degree render this attempt less necessary in a public point of view. But the period may arrive, when an adventurous association may complete a work which the present and

* The general size is about three quarters of a pound ; but there is a drawing of one in Penrose-House, weighing above eight pounds, taken with a fly ; but this was an uncommon circumstance.

past generation hesitate to undertake, and sincerely wish—

“Like duteous sons, their fathers were more wise.”

The admirers of landscape scenery will be particularly delighted with the views about the Loe Pool, which are peculiarly fine and picturesque. Rocks, wood, and water, here unite every characteristic excellence, to form a truly pleasing picture.

On the banks of the Loe, a lead and silver mine has been worked on an extensive scale, which for some considerable time was very productive, but it has for many years been abandoned.

Adjoining the town is Silver Hill lead mine, and although in its infancy, is a very promising adventure.

Helston contains 329 houses, and 2248 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.—It is 272 miles west-south-west of London, 99 from Exeter, and 17 from Truro.



ST. HILARY.

The parish of St. Hilary is rendered both famous and interesting, from including within its range the ancient town of Marazion, and the sublime spectacle of St. Michael's Mount, (which are described under their respective heads). The church is about five miles from Penzance, and about two from Marazion. The principal villages are, Higher and Lower Downs, Relubbas, Resudgian, Tregurtha, and Trevenor.

This parish is indebted for its present name to St. Hilary, bishop of Poitiers, who was driven into Phrygia for his attachment to the rectitude of faith, and invincible adherence to the doctrine of the godhead of Christ. He was

banished in the year 556, but was recalled about the year 560, and died at Poitiers about six years afterwards.

The late vicar, the Rev. Malachy Hitchens, who died in 1809, was well known in the scientific world, for his astronomical attainments. He was the author of several papers of much merit, which are preserved in the *Philosophical Transactions*, and the *Archæologia*.

Dr. Borlase mentions that there were formerly two chapels in this parish, dedicated respectively to St. Catherine and St. Anne; but in what place they stood is not easily to be ascertained.

Among the ejected ministers, under the Bartholomew Act in 1662, was the Rev. Mr. Sherwood of this parish, who on being ejected from St. Hilary, removed to Penzance, where he had erected for him a dissenting meeting-house, in which he continued to preach for many years, probably till his death, with much pleasure and profit to his hearers. This meeting-house having stood exactly a century, was taken down, and another erected on its site, which is now occupied by the Rev. Mr. Foxell, and his congregation.

In the church of St. Hilary, is a monument in memory of Catherine, the wife of John St. Aubyn, Esq. of Clowance, and heiress of Francis Godolphin, Esq. of Treveneage, dated 1662. And in the church-yard are several memorials for the families of Millett, Dinan, and Blewett. On most of these the family arms are cut. The memorial of Blewett is on solid marble.

By the Rev. John Penneck, who died in the year 1724, the interest of £100 was given, either for the relief of the poor, or for teaching their children to read.

It seems to be generally admitted that St. Michael's Mount, though now deemed a mere appendage to the

parish of St. Hilary, was the mother church. In the year 1313, the dead of Marazion were for the first time allowed, from the danger of passing with them to the Mount, to be buried at St. Hilary.

Penberthy Croft mine. These extensive workings are again resumed, and from the state of her prospects when she last ceased working, and the determination of the present respectable adventurers to carry her on with spirit, in all probability they will soon be reimbursed the money they may advance. This mine being a keystone to many others of minor importance, these will necessarily follow.

St. Hilary contains 3228 acres, 447 houses, and 1248 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Penwith.



ILLOGAN.

Illogan or Luggan, implies the white tower ; Luggun, the tower on the downs ; and Lugdun, the tower hill. It is probable that the ancient castle on Carnbre Hill, which is situated in this parish, might have suggested the idea of "the tower on the downs ;" which in process of time became the name of the whole district. Illogan is situated about ten miles nearly west from Truro, and about two miles north-west from Redruth. The principal villages in this parish are, Pool, and Portreath, or Basset's Cove. This latter place is of considerable consequence to the mining district ; as most of the neighbouring mines obtain their coals, iron, and timber, and ship their ore there for Wales. The trade of this little port is probably of more importance than any other of similar magnitude in the county. There is a smelting house at this cove.

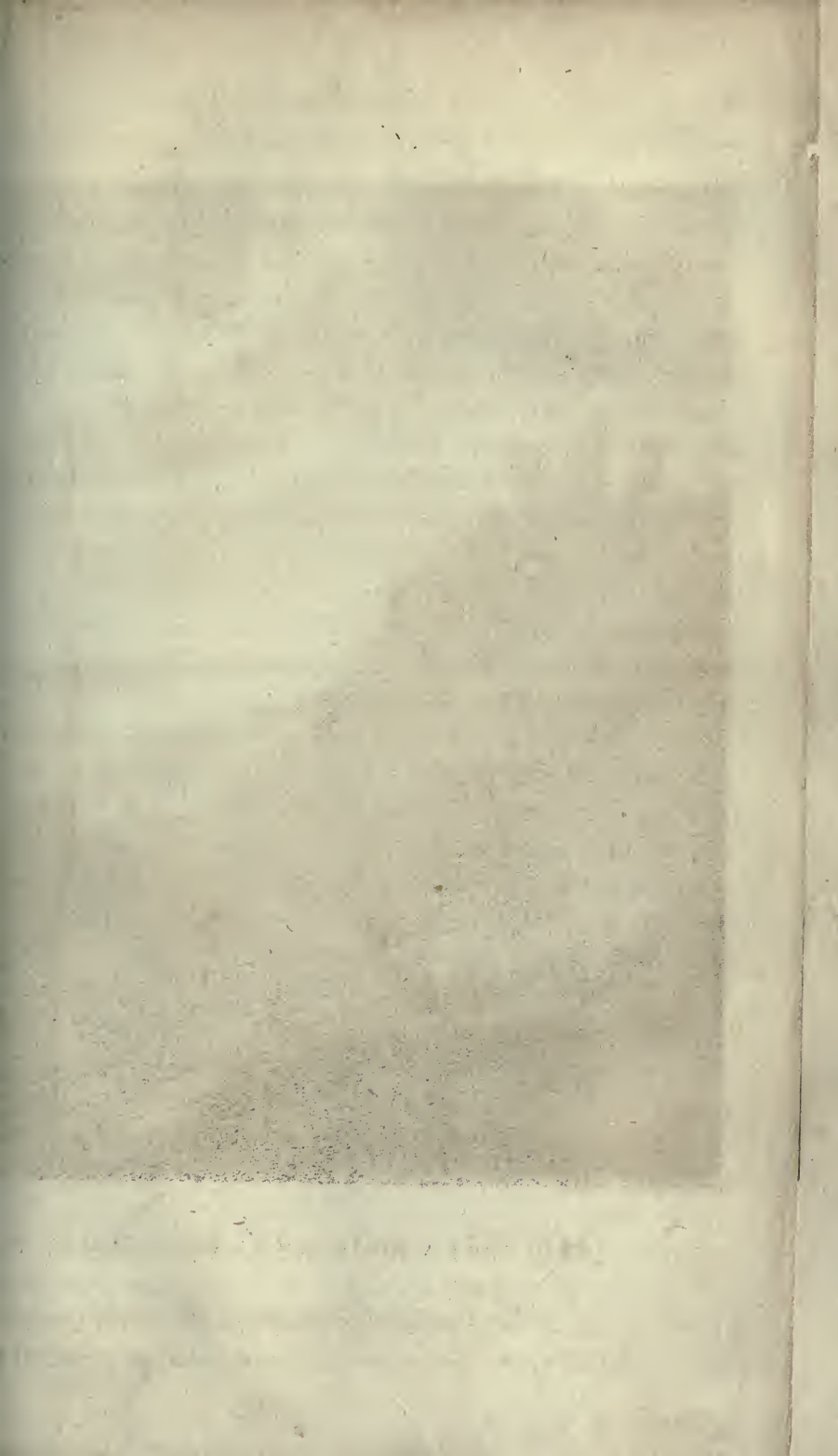
The pier at Portreath, which is about two miles from

Redruth, was begun about the year 1760, by a company of adventurers, who had taken a lease from the late Francis Basset, Esq. who had also a considerable share in the undertaking. By this company the pier was built, and warehouses and a jetty were erected, at the expence of about £12,000. Between the years 1778 and 1781, all the out shares were purchased by Lord de Dunstanville, who expended about £3000 in extending and repairing the pier. Since that time his lordship has granted a lease of this property to the Messrs. Foxes, merchants of Falmouth, who have expended the additional sum of nearly £6000 in making an inner bason, in erecting additional buildings, and in forming more commodious roads from the mines to the pier. Among these a rail or tram road has been made, over which the wheels of the carriages, that are constructed on purpose, run on cast iron; which facilitates in an extraordinary manner the progress of the vehicles, and greatly lessens the force of animal exertion. On the western side of the bay, a battery of four twelve-pounders, was erected by Lord de Dunstanville about the year 1782, and on the opposite hill immediately over the jetty are two six-pounders, to defend the inlet from the depredations of privateers.

Among the ancient fortifications, the old castle which stands upon Carnbre Hill, elevated nearly 700 feet above the level of the sea, may be considered as bearing the most indubitable marks of British origin. This venerable structure stands on a rocky knoll, at the eastern end of this elevated range. Its foundation is laid on an irregular ledge of tremendous rocks, which seem to have been thrown into a state of wild disorder, by some violent convulsion of nature. As these rocks are not contiguous, nor equal to one another in their respective heights, the architect who

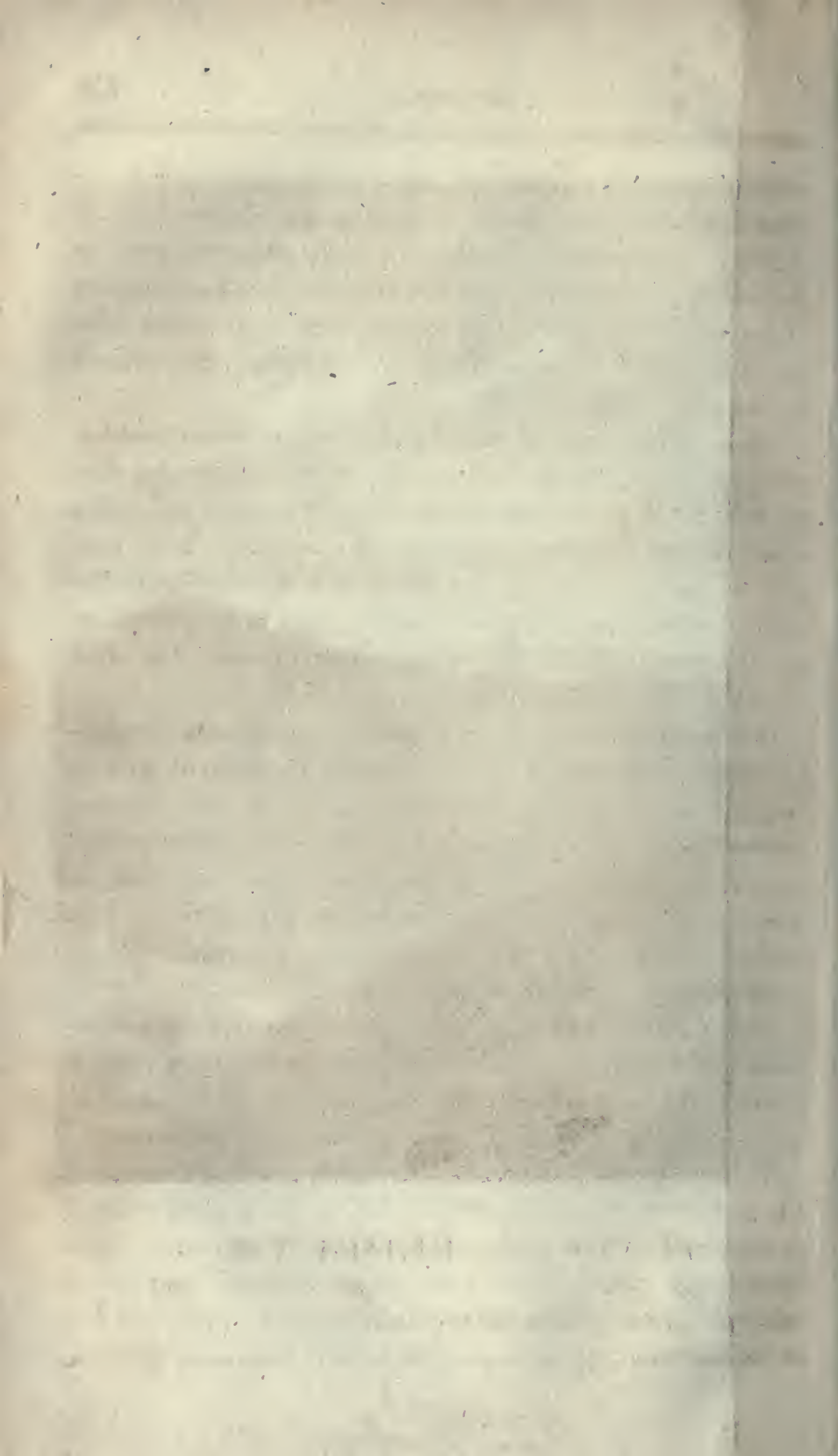
began the building, instead of reducing the highest, or filling up the interstices between them and the lowest with other rocks, permitted them to retain their native irregularity; and, in order to procure a proper support for the wall which he intended to raise, turned arches from rock to rock, leaving the ground floor within as rough and irregular as the natural crags on which the arches were turned, that still appear without. As the ledge of rocks on which the superstructure was raised, was rather narrow, the rooms, though purchased with incalculable labour, were neither large nor handsome; but they were calculated to lift their inhabitants to the storms, to ensure to them a free circulation of unpolluted air, and to furnish them with an extensive prospect of the country round. The walls as they still remain, have in one of the turrets, three stories of windows, and in another but one, which arises from the irregularity of the rocks on which the foundations of the building were laid. The walls are almost every where pierced by small loop-holes, which must have served the double purpose of enabling the defenders to discover an enemy from what quarter soever they came, to prepare for the attack, and to discharge their arrows, without having much to fear from the power of the assailants. To these original loop-holes some larger openings appear to have been made in more modern times, for the discharge of fire-arms, after these implements of destruction were invented.

At the north-west end, the vestiges of some very ancient buildings still appear, but they are in a state of ruin. These in all probability were once connected with the castle, and they may be considered as belonging to the outworks of it. But they have fallen a prey to the corroding tooth of time, so that the vestiges which remain are scarcely sufficient to direct the eye over that line which the





a distant View of REDRUTH.
 the Lord De Dunstanville.
 W. H. L. Serv. J.
 Wm Penaluna



outworks once occupied. To these fortifications of art, the situation which they chose, added to the fortifications of nature. The enormous rocks which are scattered over the declivities of the hill, could not fail to retard the progress of an advancing army, and expose them to a considerable annoyance from the arrows of those who were safely lodged within the citadel.

About three hundred yards to the west of this venerable pile, on a part of the hill that is still more elevated than that on which this antiquated building stands, some remains of an ancient circular fortification still appear. They present to the eye the ruins of a wall which was twenty feet wide, and no doubt was once equally high in proportion to its thickness. This part is now denominated *The Old Castle*.

On Carnbre, there is a rock which is commonly denominated the Sacrificing Rock ; on which the ancient Britons in national calamities, offered human sacrifices. It is recorded in Borlase, when on a succession of dry weather, the young men took their chance, and the lot fell on Conrod, who became a sacrifice to this barbarous superstition. This young man was about to be married to Cornubia, and in consequence of which it proved fatal to her also.

At the foot of Carnbre, quantities of Roman coins have been found at different times, and also in the year 1749, a considerable number of gold coins were found, supposed to be British, and coined before the invasion of the Romans.

Tehidy, which in the Cornish language signifies either the narrow house, the fowler's house, or the single dwelling, is the seat of Francis Basset, Lord de Dunstanville. It is about four miles north-west from Redruth, and when surveyed from the summit of Carnbre Hill, from which it is conspicuous, it appears like a well cultivated garden,

blooming in the midst of a barren desert. The whole extent of the park and grounds is about 700 acres, of which 150 are appropriated to lawn and sheep walk ; 130 are in woodland, ninety of which have been planted by the present nobleman, by whom the estate has been greatly improved. Among the numerous trees that have been planted, silver firs, laurels, hollies, and cypresses, have been found to flourish exceedingly well. Of deciduous trees the oak, Spanish chesnut, beech, and sycamore, flourish best ; the larch will not succeed, unless planted in very sheltered spots. In raising these plantations, the pine aster fir was constantly planted as a security for the other trees, which were rarely set in the ground until the latter had attained two years' growth ; and this was generally found, unless in situations much exposed, to answer every purpose.

The present mansion was erected by John Pendarves, Basset, uncle to the present proprietor, from designs by Edwards. The buildings are chiefly of Cornish freestone, and consist of a square and spacious dwelling house in the centre, and four detached pavilions at the angles. These pavilions contain the domestic offices, and a private chapel. On the summit of the house is a statute of the Farnese Flora, executed in Coade's artificial stone. This mansion is ornamented with some good paintings, executed by several celebrated artists, among which are the following :—Vandyke, Lely, Godfrey Kneller, Hudson, and Sir Joshua Reynolds,

During the civil war which ravaged this country, the Basset family were much distinguished for their loyalty. Sir Francis, who was then the representative of the family, was vice admiral of Cornwall, and governor of St. Michael's Mount, in which latter situation he was succeeded by his brother Sir Arthur. Another brother named Thomas, who

was knighted in 1644, was general of the ordnance to Prince Maurice. When the fate of Charles was decided by the triumph of the parliamentary forces, John Basset, son and heir of Sir Francis, although he had never borne arms against the commonwealth, was seized and imprisoned for the active hostility of his father, which was thought to have imparted to the son an undefinable quality of punishable disaffection. In consequence of the troubles which succeed to this imprisonment, he was obliged to enter into a compound for his estates with the reigning faction; and, to meet the demands made upon his property, to sell St. Michael's Mount, which was purchased by the St. Aubyn family, in whose possession it has ever since remained.

In the year 1779, Sir Francis Basset, now Lord de Dunstanville and Basset, with his accustomed zeal for his country, at the time of the projected French invasion, sounded the Cornish trumpet "ONE AND ALL," and immediately collected an army from the mines, and conducted them to Plymouth, where they were employed under his management, with great credit to themselves and honour to their noble leader.

The remains of a castle are now to be seen about half a mile north-west of Tebidy, near the brim of the cliff. The intrenchment is generally called the bowling green, from being very even and full of grass.

Within a few years a chapel has been erected at Trevenson near Pool, at the expence of Lord de Dunstanville, by whom it was endowed with lands now let at £42 per annum. This chapel, which was opened in the year 1809, contains an elegant altar-piece, painted by Mr. Lane of Helston, at the expence of his lordship. This altar-piece was much admired at the exhibition; but it was not generally believed to be the production of Mr. Lane till he produced his drawings.

The Wesleyan Methodists have several places of worship in this parish.

According to Borlase, from the registers of the see of Exeter, there were formerly chapels in this parish dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, St. John the Baptist, and St. Constantine; but these are at present nearly unknown.

An almshouse for four poor aged women was founded about the year 1806, by the Hon. Miss Basset, who gives an annual stipend to her pensioners.

There is also a school for poor children at Pool, supported by the bounty of Lord de Dunstanville.

The plague which raged so fatally in England in the year 1591, is said to have ravaged this parish with much severity. About 100 persons died in that year of this disease, which exceeded the mortality of any former period in a most unexampled degree.

Wheal Basset was worked for several years, without profit to the adventurers, but lately their prospects have brightened, by discovering some valuable copper ores.—They still continue to extend the mine, and little doubt can be entertained that the issue will prove fortunate.

Wheal Lushington tin mine is now suspended, but for a considerable time much tin was raised and smelted on the mine.

This parish contains 8928 acres, 770 houses, and 4078 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



ST. IVES.

St. Ives is a borough town situated on the north-west shore of Cornwall, adjoining the Bristol Channel, about eight miles north-north-east from Penzance. This populous

sea-port stands near the north-east angle of a fine bay, bounded by bold rocks of black killas.

It is uncertain when this town was first denominated a borough. It was fully incorporated by Charles I. in the year 1639, which charter of incorporation was procured by Sir Francis Basset, then member for St. Ives. This charter extended its influence over the whole parish of this name. The body corporate consists of a mayor, twelve capital burgesses, and twenty-four inferior burgesses. But by a charter granted by James II. in the year 1685, the body corporate is said to consist of a mayor, recorder, town clerk, ten aldermen, and twelve common councilmen. Four of these are justices of the peace, and hold a sessions, and the mayor is coroner *pro tempore*. By the charter of Charles, the mayor acted as a justice of the peace for one year after the expiration of his mayoralty. The senior burgess and the recorder possessed the same authority. But by that of James, the judicial power was placed under the restrictions that have been mentioned. The right of voting extends to all the inhabitants paying scot and lot, the number of whom at the last election amounted to about 317.

When Sir Francis Basset procured the above-mentioned charter, he presented the corporation a cup, on which was engraven the following inscription:—

“If any discord ’twixt my friends arise,
Within the borough of beloved St. Ives,
It is desyred that this my cupp of love
To every one a peacemaker may prove;
Then I am blest, to have given a legacie
So like my harte unto posteritie.”—*Francis Basset, Anno 1640.*

This cup is still preserved with much veneration; and how unsuccessful soever it may have proved in other

respects, it stands a lasting monument of an amiable and benevolent disposition.

Holinshed in his Chronicle, adverting to the fortifications and lighthouses of St. Ives, observes—"On a little byé land cape or peninsula called Pendinas, the compass not above a mile, standeth a pharos or light for ships that sail by these coasts in the night. There is also a blockhouse, and a pier on the east side thereof." This pier must have existed long before the present was constructed, as Holinshed adds, "but the pier is sore choked with sand, as is the whole coast of St. Ies unto Crantokes." The old pharos which still exists, is used as a depôt for the stores of government.

A commodious pier was constructed, between the years 1766 and 1770. This in no small degree has answered its intended purpose, so that vessels caught on a lee shore in the northern channel, are sure to find a place of safety, if they can enter the pier of St. Ives. This work was constructed under the direction of the ingenious Mr. Smeaton, to whose talents Eddystone is indebted for its present lighthouse. Since this pier has been erected, the trade of St. Ives has considerably increased, and the harbour or basin has been much frequented by vessels which put in for shelter and trade.

In November 1816, it was agreed on by the magistrates, and trustees of the pier and port of St. Ives, to extend the pier, and to construct a breakwater in order to shelter it, by which means it is calculated that the harbour will afford accommodation to upwards of 200 sail of vessels, in from two and half to four fathoms low water, at spring tides.

The chief trade of this harbour is carried on at Hayle, which is about three miles from St. Ives, but lies within the port.

The port is greatly incommoded by sand, driven in by north-west winds, and the town has suffered from the same cause. Sand-banks, in many places a mile wide, and elevated fifty or sixty yards above the level of the sea, extend almost all along the coast, from St. Ives to Padstow. They are now slightly covered with turf, but on digging into them to a certain depth, regular inclosures, and the remains of houses, have been found. This irruption of sand, by which, undoubtedly, a great change has been effected in the appearance of the lands around the coast, is traditionally reported to have happened in the sixteenth century.

To protect this town, St. Ives has a battery of twelve guns, placed on the promontory at the north-east of the town, from which it is separated by a sandy isthmus. This is a fine abrupt steep, ribbed with romantic rocks, against which the waves beat with inconceivable fury when agitated by the storms of the north.

On entering the town from Redruth it has a very respectable and pleasing appearance, all the houses being handsomely covered with slated roofs, and in general well built, but on descending into the town the streets are narrow and intricate, intersecting each other in various directions. Its principal imports are coals, salt, timber, iron, and groceries, and its exports consist chiefly in fish and copper ore. During the last two or three years the pilchard fishery has considerably failed, which is a severe loss to the inhabitants. The wealthy have risked their property in the purchase of craft, for which they can obtain no reimbursement; and the poor have been deprived of their principal means of procuring bread.

In the year 1814, large shoals of herrings approached the bay of St. Ives, and more than an hundred boats were employed in taking them, all which were nearly filled every

day. Each boat frequently caught 30,000 herrings during a night. Sixteen thousand barrels, or about 3000 tons of fish, were cured.

The church is a low but spacious building, having a nave and two aisles; but from its situation, being near the shore, it is frequently covered with a spray of the sea, when high tides are driven against the coast by violent tempests. It was built as a chapel to Lelant, by virtue of a bull from pope Alexander I. dated in 1410, and was consecrated by the Bishop of Exeter in 1434. It is still a daughter church to Lelant. The great tithes, which originally belonged to the college of Crediton, were the property of the Praeds, of whom they were purchased by Sir Christopher Hawkins, bart. in whom they are now vested. The Bishop of Exeter is patron of the vicarage. Both the Methodists and Dissenters have commodious chapels in this town.

The principal villages in this parish are, Aire, Batavellan, Bovallan, Carrackdues, Corva, Hellesvean, Hellesveor, Penbeagle, Polmantor, Treloyhan, Trenwith, and Trowan.

Mr. Borlase says in the year 1770, the remains of an ancient chapel was discovered near the quay, which was converted into a smith's shop.

In the year 1549, Sir Anthony Kingston, provost-marshal to Edward VI. was sent into the west to execute rebels, and on his arrival at St. Ives he ordered John Payne, who was mayor, to be executed, and a gallows was erected in the middle of the town where he was immediately hung.

In the year 1647, the plague is said to have been very fatal at this town, 535 persons having died of that disease between Easter and the ensuing October.

In the year 1649, Mrs. Cheston Hext, widow, founded an almshouse for six poor persons, and gave the sum of

£50; out of the interest of which 20s. per annum was to be given to the officiating minister of the parish, and the remainder to the poor; but unhappily, of this almshouse no traces remain. A grammar school was also founded in this town by the charter of king Charles in 1639; the Bishop of Exeter, with the mayor and capital burgesses, being appointed governors. But this school, like the almshouse, has not been seen for many years.

On the summit of a hill about half a mile from St. Ives, stands Tregenna Castle, the seat of Samuel Stephens, Esq. This mansion was erected by his father, on a spot from whence a fine sea view is commanded. The house though modern, is built in imitation of a castle. Placed in a conspicuous situation, its appearance to an enemy in the Channel, who notices every indication of war, must be formidable; and it might probably deter him from approaching the shore, by holding out a semblance of hostility and defensive strength, which none but strangers at a distance would suspect it to possess.

About a mile from this house, on the summit of another lofty hill, stands a pyramid, which is a conspicuous object both by sea and land, and is equally singular through the cause of its erection. It was built by order of John Knill, Esq. a bencher of Gray's Inn, who was some time collector of the port of St. Ives, and was afterwards secretary to Lord Hobart, when he was lord lieutenant of Ireland. In this mausoleum it was his intention that his mortal remains should be interred. On one side of this pyramid, in which the niche for his coffin was made, stands inscribed his name "Johannes Knill;" on another is the word "Resurgam;" and on a third, "I know that my Redeemer liveth." To perpetuate his name, he directed, that at the end of every five years after his decease, an elderly woman, and ten girls, each under fourteen years of age, dressed in white,

should walk in procession from the market-house in St. Ives to the pyramid, accompanied with music, and that they should dance round this mausoleum singing the following chorus :—

“Quit the bustle of the bay,
Hasten, virgins, come away ;
Hasten to the mountain’s brow ;
Leave, oh ! leave St. Ives-below.
Haste to breathe a purer air,
Virgins fair, and pure as fair.”

And that this custom might not be abandoned for want of support, he gave some freehold lands, vesting them in the hands of the officiating minister, the mayor of the borough, and the collector of the port, for the time being, to whom he allotted £10 for a dinner. Mr. Knill died in 1811, but was buried in London, where he had spent the latter part of his life, having abandoned his original design.

The first celebration took place in July 1801, where also the wrestlers exerted their strength, the rowers, in their various dresses of blue, white, and red, urged the gilded prows of their boats through the sparkling waves of the ocean ; while the hills echoed to the mingled shouts of the victors, the dashing of the oars, the songs of the virgins, and the repeated plaudits of the admiring crowd, who stood so thick upon the crescent, which is formed by the surrounding mountains, as to appear *one living amphitheatre*.

St. Ives * parish contains 1524 acres, 727 houses, and 3281 inhabitants ; town contains 620 houses, and 2714 inhabitants, is 277 miles west-south-west from London ; in the hundred of Penwith.

* This parish having nothing particular to cause a distinct description necessary, is comprised under the same head St. Ives.

ST. JUST.

This parish is in the westernmost district of the county. It is situated about seven miles nearly west from Penzance. The church town in this parish is considerable; and, besides this, it has several villages, of which the principal are Botallack, Bosavern, Brea, Kelinack, Pendeen, and Trewillard.

“On the western side of this parish are the remains of an ancient chapel. Its foundation is about fifteen feet high, and it rises about ten feet higher; it is walled and arched over with moorstone, having one window in the east, and a door in the south. It is about fourteen feet long, and ten broad, having several moorstone steps in a state of decay.” This old chapel stands on a singular tumulus of carnes, which, in connexion with the building, is called Chapel Carnbre. There are not many bolder carnes than this to be found in Cornwall. On the plain near Cape Cornwall, are the remains of another ancient chapel, forty-five feet by twelve, with a chapel-yard; and Dr. Borlase speaks of another at a place called Breh, which in his time was converted into a dwelling house.

Pendeen, which was the birth-place of the justly celebrated Dr. Borlase, and which has been for a considerable time a seat of this family, is at present a farm house, the property of Mr. Samuel Borlase, a minor, son of the late John Borlase, Esq.

Dr. Borlase has observed that on Douran a very singular stream of tin was discovered in the year 1738. The ore which was pulverized, was between twelve and eighteen inches in depth, and of various breadths. It was first discovered in a moory soil, having on it a black stratum or gravel, about two feet thick. But as the stream advanced

more to the hill, it had a still thicker covering; till entering the rising ground, it had all Douran hill upon it, which was about forty feet perpendicular, while the stream pursued its original horizontal direction.

That this stream was collected from the adjacent strata, and then spread in this equable manner by the force of water, is extremely probable; but how it should become covered with such a large heap of rubble, clay, and gravel, as composed the hill of Douran, it is not easy to decide. There are indeed strong proofs, in some of the adjoining cliffs, of large heaps, very little inferior to this in quantity, which were most likely laid where we find them by the waters of the Deluge. This same author supposes that the hill of Douran was formerly impregnated with tin, which, by some violent deluge, perhaps that of Noah, was washed from its original position, to the floor below, in which it was spread in the horizontal state in which it was discovered, both in the moor and in the hill. In this manner he very naturally imagines, that it would descend by means of its specific gravity, leaving its associate rubbish behind, admitting the water could fully penetrate the hill, and would rest on the floor at its base, and spread in an horizontal direction, or rather would collect in an horizontal manner, provided the floor were too hard to allow its deeper descent. And consequently, when the waters retired, some portions of the ore would be carried into the moor in which it was first discovered; and being thus deserted in both positions, would ultimately exhibit the spectacle which both the hill and the moor displayed.

There is a circular enclosure in this parish, 126 feet in diameter, and had six seats or benches for the accommodation of the audience. In these amphitheatres, says Dr. Borlase, "the Britons did usually assemble to hear plays

acted, and to see the sports and games, which, upon particular occasions, were intended to amuse the people, to quiet and delight them." The characters which were introduced were in all probability those of some heroic chiefs, whose conduct was exhibited to stimulate by example; or the leading features of some memorable event which they were solicitous to perpetuate, might occasionally furnish them with an interesting interlude.

"Mr. Ralph Williams of Chikarn, in the year 1733, discovered a very remarkable monument in this place, when removing a barrow. As he approached towards the central parts of the barrow, he found a great many urns, of which he took not much notice. But as he came to the centre, he discovered a square stone chest or cell, in which he also found an urn finely carved and full of human bones. According to the best of his recollection, the number of urns amounted to about fifty. These were ranged around the central one, and had within them some remains of bones and earth. All however, were either broken or thrown away as of no consequence, excepting the principal one, which Mr. Williams carefully preserved on account of its neat carvings, and carried to his house to exhibit to the inspection of the curious." From the workmanship of the urn, scarcely any doubt can remain of its being Roman; and consequently, this being decided, we cannot but determine all the others to belong to the same nation.

Botallack mine is situated near the western extremity of the parish. It is very productive of tin and copper, and the workings are more than seventy fathoms under the sea, which in some places actually filters through! This mine, whether considered with respect to its valuable and varied mineral productions, the labour and perseverance required in working it, or for the rude yet magnificent nature of its

surrounding scenery, is entitled to particular attention, and cannot fail to excite the admiration of the tourist. In the early stages of the undertaking it was found necessary to lower an immense steam-engine down a tremendous precipice, of nearly seventy yards, in order to prosecute the mine under the bed of the atlantic ocean !

At Wheal Cock mine in this parish, native silver, in the days of Dr. Borlase, was discovered among the copper ore ; among which this gentleman once found a portion about the size of a walnut, that was pure and unmixed.

At Pendeen-Vau are three long caves or galleries, supposed to have been places of retreat for the ancient Britons, in time of war or danger.

St. Just contains 6984 acres, 606 houses, and 3057 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Penwith.



KEA.

This parish is both large and populous, on its eastern extremity it borders on the precincts of Truro. Its principal village is Calenick, (although part of the large and flourishing village of Chacewater is included within its wide embrace.) It lies in a vale a mile from Truro, through which passes the great road leading to Falmouth.

The ancient church of Kea stood near the extremity of the parish, towards the harbour of Falmouth ; but from the inconvenience of its situation it was removed about the commencement of the present century to the more central position which it now occupies. The tower of the old church still remains ; it was purchased by the late Lord Falmouth as presenting a conspicuous and pleasing object from the grounds of Tregothnan. The new church was

erected in 1803, from a plan of the late James Wyatt, Esq. In this new church is a beautiful altar-piece, executed by the lady of R. L. Gwatkin, Esq.; it is highly emblematical, and does honour to the niece of that great painter, Sir Joshua Reynolds.

“In this parish,” says Hals, “on the open downs by the highway or street, are situated the four barrows, sepulchres, or graves, after the British manner, to put those travellers that passed by, in mind of mortality and death. One of them is called Barrow-Bel-les, *i. e.* the remote, broad, or large barrow or sepulchre; and suitable to its name it is one of the largest barrows in these parts. Into this barrow some tinnerns pierced a hole or adit, in the reign of William III. in hopes of finding money; but having reached the centre, although they missed their expectations, they found two of the broadest moorstones that they had seen in the adjacent country. These were respectively supported by three perpendicular stones of suitable strength and dimensions. In the vacant space, below the horizontal covers, they found some fragments of decayed or broken urns, and about a gallon of black matter and ashes, which doubtless were the gleanings of some once famous human creature interred here before the fifth century;—interred here with many thousands besides, doubtless of less degree, in the contiguous lands thereof, who had not money to raise such troublesome, laborious, and costly funeral monuments, as those four barrows were.”

Both on the north and south of Chacewater there are various barrows. Some of these having been lately opened, have furnished undeniable evidences of their original designation. On opening two of them, some earthen urns in a high state of preservation, were discovered. They were curiously wrought, and contained a portion of glutinous

matter, fully demonstrating of what the deposit consisted, although not the smallest vestige of a human form was to be found.

In this parish there is an almshouse, which was founded by the will of Mr. John Lanyon, bearing date 1724, by which it was endowed with an estate in Gwennap worth about £50 per annum. The almshouse is appropriated to as many poor people of the parish of Kea as it will conveniently hold, provided they belong to the community of the church of England, and receive no parochial relief. Its stated number is eight persons.

Kelliow seat is occasionally occupied by Robert Lovell Gwatkin, Esq. who is the proprietor. It forms a beautiful view from the road leading from Penryn to Truro.

Seviock is the property of Michael Allen, Esq. of Devon. At a particular place on the extremity of this parish, where the hundreds of Penwith, Kirrier, and Powder, and the parishes of Redruth, Gwennap, and Kea, meet in a point called Kyvur Ankow, which signifies the place of death. This is an ancient place where felones de se were buried.

On the manor of Blanchland, Tonkin says, the first copper mines that ever proved successful, were established.

The trade of Calenick arises from its smelting-house, where the miners resort with their tin ore from the various mines in the adjacent parishes. This smelting-house contains ten reverberating furnaces, and employs about twenty men. Crucibles are manufactured here.

Wheal Falmouth mine is situated about two miles west of Truro, leading to Redruth. A considerable sum was expended by the late adventurers, in erecting a steam-engine, and exploding the different lodes; but their researches proving unsuccessful, the workings were stopped.

Wheal Tregothnan and Baldew extend nearly half a mile in length. The latter commenced working at a period so remote that no memorials of the time are preserved. Here are still to be seen very extensive caverns (or coffins as the neighbouring miners call them) quite open to the surface, from which the workmen brought their tin; but the mine becoming poor and dangerous, it was at length relinquished. A few persons are at present employed here. An attempt was recently made, with a steam-engine, to find copper ores in this adventure, but the undertaking was soon abandoned.

Wheal Hope is on the north of Baldew. Large quantities of zinc (called by the miners *black jack*) were formerly raised here, but the knowledge and application of that metal not being generally understood, and the sale of it depending principally on the brass-wire company, the working of this mine is suspended, until the stock already raised shall be disposed of. Much of the above metal has been raised from various places in this neighbourhood, affording considerable profit to those concerned.

Carnhot mine. A steam-engine was placed on the mine some years since; but after the lodes had been examined, they were found so poor as to be inadequate to meet the expence of working, and the undertaking was consequently abandoned, with loss to the adventurers.

Kea parish contains 7382 acres, 535 houses, and 2766 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Powder.



KENWYN.

Kenwyn joins the town of Truro so immediately, that a part of what is deemed Truro, stands on the ground of Kenwyn. Its church, which stands on a rising spot,

becomes a conspicuous object from the vicinity, and furnishes from its site, and from the parsonage house which is contiguous, an extensive and pleasing prospect. It is about three quarters of a mile north-west from Truro.

Chacewater, which is the principal village in this parish, although a small portion of it lies in Kea, is situated on the great western road from Truro to Redruth and Penzance. This village is in a fertile valley about five miles from Truro, and about three from Redruth. Within the last century the increase of its buildings and population have been so considerable, that, from a diminutive hamlet it now contains above 500 souls. The parishes of Kea and Kenwyn meet together in this village; and what may seem extraordinary, the inhabitants of the latter cannot visit their own church, without passing through the former. This strange intermixture seems to intimate that some great alteration has taken place in the arrangements of these districts; and it is probable that St. Day formerly claimed some of those lands which are now distributed among the parishes which exist, while St. Day has dwindled into a mere member of Gwennap. Chacewater has two meeting-houses, one belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists, and the other to the Baptists.

In the neighbourhood of this village, particularly on the northern side, and in the vicinity of the barrows already noticed in the preceding parish, the quantity of waste land is very considerable.

The Exeter registers mention that there was formerly in this parish a chapel dedicated to St. George. Here was also the site of a Dominican friary, said to have been founded by the Reskymers, and granted to William Aglionby, Esq. by Edward VI.

Roseveth was formerly a seat of the Cosens, one of which family was sheriff of Cornwall in the year 1660.

Bosvigo was about the commencement of the last century in the family of Sholl, of whom it was purchased in 1741 by the grandfather of Sir William Lemon, bart. the present proprietor. This was the seat of the late Captain Woolridge, of the royal navy, and of I. W. Chilcott, Esq.

Croftwest was long the residence of Thomas Michell, Esq. who died a few years since in Truro, at a very advanced age.

Newham, the seat of Captain Woolridge:

Creegbraws, an ancient mine in this parish, has been so long in working, that no records are extant to date its commencement. This at different periods has yielded vast quantities of tin, and a considerable profit to the adventurers; but the principal parts of the workings are now discontinued, in consequence of the vast expence of raising the water. On a copper lode some men are still employed; and from its proximity to the copper mine of Wheal Unity, great expectations are entertained of its successful issue.

Garras, or Gwarnick, lead and silver mine is near the small river Allen. It would be difficult to ascertain precisely at what period this mine commenced working; though from the nature of the labour, and other evidences, it is very clear that it was prosecuted before the application of machinery for raising water from mines was generally known. Of the late working, which ceased about two years since, it need only be observed that an enormous sum of money was expended in erections of several kinds, in order to run and refine the silver ores; but the expenditure far exceeding the value of the metal raised, the adventure was abandoned and the materials sold.

At what particular time Chacewater Mine began working, it is difficult to determine. There are however, sufficient reasons to assure us, that it must have been at a remote

period. Upwards of a century since, Mr. Koster, a German, who had acquired some knowledge of chemistry, came into this county, and took upon him the management of this adventure. Hitherto this had been worked as a tin mine; but Mr. Koster discovering copper, of which he knew the value, formed a company in Bristol, for the purchase of this article. These gentlemen finding it a lucrative trade, monopolized the whole, until another company started into existence, formed a competition, and thus brought into use the mode of ticketing which is practised to the present day. Mr. Koster left but one daughter, who was married to — Quick, Esq. of Nanswhyden, in which house were deposited many valuable manuscripts of Mr. Koster relative to the mining concerns of Cornwall. But these, with many other important articles, became a prey to the devouring conflagration, by which that house a few years since was reduced to ashes,

The engine which now raises the water, is said to be the most powerful in the world, being equal to 1008 horses! was constructed by Mr. Samuel Moyle, of Chacewater. Its cylinder is sixty-six inches in diameter, and its stroke about eleven feet in the cylinder, and nine in the shaft. It delivers about 700 gallons of water per minute to the adit, which may be considered as its average delivery throughout the year. The depth of the engine shaft is about 122 fathoms from the surface, of which 84 are below the adit level. The stratum is killas, and the production tin and copper. The numbers employed on this mine, including men, women, and children, are about 700.

The adit of this mine is the deepest in the county, and is connected with various other mines, by which its course is about twenty-five miles before it reaches Falmouth Harbour, into one of the creeks of which it discharges its water.

Killicor mine produced considerable quantities of tin, which afforded great profit to the adventurers. The water increasing, a steam-engine was afterwards erected; but the expence of working it being great, and the mine having fallen short of its usual produce, the adventure was stopped.

Wheal Daniel has been abandoned for a considerable time, but preparations are making to resume the working, and the appearances of the mine augur well to the undertaking.

North Downs mines are in the several parishes of Kenwyn, Redruth, and St. Agnes, extending above a mile and half in length without including Briggan and Wheal Boys, which, however, belong to this concern. The last working was far from being prosperous; for although some parts were found extremely rich, the poverty of the rest was more than sufficient to counterbalance those advantages. No less than seven powerful steam-engines were employed to drain the water, and large sums of money were necessary, monthly, to defray the expence attending them; nor could a part of the workings be stopped, without endangering the whole.

Wheal Peevor continued to produce large quantities of tin, perhaps equal to the returns of any other mine in the county; but the difficulties of the adventurers increasing, that part of the mine below the adit was abandoned, and only a few men are now employed above it.

Trefusis-Wood, which is a part of Wheal Unity, has produced a considerable quantity of tin, of the first quality, with some copper ores; and, on the whole, the adventure cannot be considered unpromising.

Kenwyn contains 8080 acres, 959 houses, and 5000 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Powder.

ST. KEVERNE.

This parish is situated on that large tract of land, which, extending from Helston towards the Lizard, comprehends not less than ten parishes. St. Keverne is about ten miles from Helston, and nearly the same distance from Falmouth; but a passage across Helford river lying between the parish and the latter town, directs the principal intercourse to the former, to which the inhabitants repair to market.

Several considerable ruins in the days of Dr. Borlase, were to be seen at a place called Tregonin, about a quarter of a mile from the present church; where, according to tradition, there formerly stood a priory, and a part of these ruins were then called the chapel. They are now gone; but the site is still well known, and many human bones have been found on digging near the spot.

At Lanarth, which has been in possession of the Sandys family upwards of a century, an elegant house has been lately built by its present proprietor Lieutenant Colonel William Sandys, who spent the spring of his life in India, in those active scenes which mark and diversify the military occupation. Wearied with such glories as the sword only can acquire, this gentleman has retired from public life; and, in the bosom of his family, and an extensive neighbourhood, he recommends both by his precepts and example, those active and passive virtues which dignify the character of man. His house, gardens, and grounds, have been raised to their present state of perfection at a vast expence; and they include every convenience which a retired situation can be expected to secure.

The church of St. Keverne is ornamented with a lofty steeple, which, standing on rising ground, is a conspicuous

object at a great distance. Within the church there are memorials of the several families of Bogan, Sandys, and Squier, and a marble slab inscribed to the memory of Mr. Edward Pearce, surgeon, erected by his brother the present dean of Ely. There is also affixed to the southern wall, a handsome monument, to commemorate the mournful event which its inscription records. It is inscribed to the memory of Major George Cavendish, Captain S. G. Dunkenfield, Lieutenant the hon. E. Waldegrave, and sixty-one non-commissioned officers and privates, of the 7th regiment of hussars, who were wrecked at Coverack in the Dispatch transport, on their return from Spain, January 22d, 1809. The privates moulder in one common grave in the churchyard.

As St. Keverne in the early days of Christianity was a place of considerable note, it had many chapels, in addition to its regular monastic buildings. At Chynals, Gwinter, Nambol, Traboe, Tregowris, and Trelease, there were chapels; and of some, various fragments of walls were standing within the memory of man. Some mention is also made in the registers of the see of Exeter, of a chapel having stood at Lesteadar. It is recorded in a petition to parliament presented in the reign of Edward IV. that John Vyvyan, Esq. of Treloarwarren, and Honour his wife, who was the heiress of Ferrers, actually went on pilgrimage to the chapel of St. James, at Tregowris.

Besides the established church, several places in this parish are appropriated to public worship, in some of its villages. At Lanarth, one wing of the house is reserved by Colonel Sandys for this purpose, and for the use of a Sunday school established several years since, and wholly supported by his bounty.

As the extremities of this parish border on the sea, it has

three fishing coves on its shores. These are Coverack, Porthalla, and Porthoustock. Coverack is a large and respectable cove, at which there is a good pier which affords shelter to small vessels. The pilchard fishery is carried on here to a great extent, but of late years it has been unsuccessful. But as this part of the coast projects much into the sea, the storms by which the south-west of Cornwall are frequently visited, are felt on these shores in all their fury. Hence, vessels have occasionally been wrecked in sight of the neighbouring inhabitants, while they have been unable to afford the unhappy sufferers the least relief. At a projecting point of land called the Blackhead, a signal station was established during the war.

It is recorded by Hals, that in the year 1702, an ancestor of Colonel Sandys of Lanarth, ventured out to sea with seven other persons in an open boat ; but a storm coming on suddenly, prevented their return ; and after driving them about four days and three nights, threw them on shore on the coast of Normandy, where they were instantly seized, the two countries being at war. But Louis XIV, hearing of their case, immediately ordered them to be liberated ; and after an absence of two months, they were landed at Portsmouth, whence they returned to St. Keverne, to the joyful astonishment of their friends, who had long concluded that they had been inevitably drowned.

There is an endowed charity school in this parish, for reading, writing, and arithmetic, the master of which has a salary of £15 per annum ; and six reading schools with small salaries. The income which forms the endowment of these schools, arises from the rent of three small parcels of land, and the interest of £150 stock, which amount to £26 10s. per annum. Part of the land was given by Sampson Sandys, Esq. in the year 1698, and the remainder

was purchased with the moiety of £200 given to the schools by John Hosken, Esq. of Tregowris, in 1770. If such acts of munificence were made public, even popular opinion would become no contemptible guard of their security. The dread of public odium would hinder such charities from being diverted into an improper channel, and induce many benevolent gentlemen to contribute to laudable institutions, who are now prevented by the daily robberies which they cannot but perceive with deep regret.

There are no mines in this parish, nor is it known that any metals have ever been discovered in this district. Many lodes indeed have been found, but they have all proved barren. This circumstance has given rise to a proverb among the old inhabitants, that "No metal will run within the sound of St. Keverne bells." It is supposed to be the effect of a curse denounced by the saint, when he resided in this parish, in consequence of the disrespect with which he was treated by the people.

On the estate of Halwyn (or The White Moor) is a circular camp called the Round, containing about an acre. It is situated within a mile of Porthalla cove.

The most extensively fertile part of Meneage is the parish of St. Keverne; where there is a fine loam, which could not have long remained unnoticed by the first colonists, also there is a rich marle, which was discovered and used with success on the land of Sir Vyel Vyvyan, bart.

Immediately adjoining this fertile district, there is a very extensive tract of moor land called Goonhilly Downs, originally covered with wood. Mr. Tonkin says, "We formerly had an excellent breed of horses on Goonhilly, in Meneage, (stretching almost from Helston to the Lizard Point) occasioned as I have heard, by a Barbary horse being turned loose there by one of the Erisey family. But

though this race be in a manner lost, yet we still call our small western horses Goonhillies, which are in request all over the kingdom, being very strong, and most of them natural pacers."

What tended to exterminate this celebrated race of horses, was a statute of Henry VIII. which permitted any person to seize upon all horses below a certain standard, that were found depasturing a public common. The sheriff's officers and others availed themselves of this privilege, and Goonhilly was soon bereft of its famous inhabitants. The name however, still survives, and the appellation is given throughout a great part of the county, to all such small strongly made horses which correspond with the description of the ancient Goonhillies. But although the breed of horses in Cornwall has been considerably improved since this edict was passed, it is only of late years that the packsaddle has been exchanged for the cart. Within the memory of the present generation, carriages of all descriptions were very rare. But in the present day both oxen and horses are trained to the business of agriculture, and unite together in one team to turn the furrow, and draw manure to the fields. On many occasions both oxen and horses now draw together on the public roads, when the journey is not long; but the roughness of their surface seems to be too severe for the tender footed ox.

At the time of the rebellion in the reign of Charles, a number of men under the command of Mr. Bogans of Treleage in St. Keverne, who had accepted a commission from Charles, posted themselves in a most advantageous situation at Gear in Mawgan, with an apparent determination of defending that important pass. But the parliament troops advancing and shewing themselves in much greater force than was expected, Major Bogans' men deserted him

without coming to action.—Some betook themselves to the Dinas, the greater part dispersed; and Major Bogans himself fled to Hilter's Clift, in this parish, and concealed himself in a cave in the rocks. This event is still remembered in Meneage, by the name of the Gear rout.

The yellow clay in this parish is considered by artisans, almost superior to any other, for casting in silver, brass, or lead.

Mr. Charles Incledon. This celebrated singer is a native of Cornwall, the son of Mr. Incledon, surgeon, of this parish, where his family have long lived in good repute. At an early age he was placed under Mr. Jackson, as a choral singer, in the cathedral church of St. Peter's, Exeter, but quitting this situation, he entered into the navy, and served as a midshipman on board H. M. S. Formidable. His remarkable vocal powers increasing in strength and compass as he advanced to manhood, he was persuaded to quit the naval service, and to endeavour to establish himself at some of the theatres. He was soon after engaged at a low salary at the Southampton theatre, made his first essay in Dermot, in the musical piece of the Poor Soldier, and received considerable applause. Here he soon attracted the notice of Mr. Ruzzini, the celebrated composer and teacher of singing, and assisted that gentleman at his concerts and musical parties, at Bath, Bristol, &c. After receiving a musical education from Mr. Ruzzini, he went to London, and obtained an engagement in the summer of 1787, at Vauxhall. The superlative powers of Mr. Incledon were soon called completely into action; he was now in a situation where real merit is speedily ascertained and liberally rewarded, and he was engaged at Covent Garden theatre as first singer, till the year 1814. The style of Mr.

Incedon is decidedly *English*; his tones, full, strong, and clear, in such songs as "The Bay of Biscay O," "The Arethusa," and "The Storm," have been the delight of thousands. The softness and sweetness also, with which he executes the ballad of "Black Eyed Susan," &c. have a touching and irresistible effect. His voice is nearly as effective as it has ever been. This exquisite harmonist is lately returned from America.

Although it is stated in page 147, that there are no mines in this parish, there is a small adventure for copper now undertaken, and it is hoped it will be found to be productive.

St. Keverne* contains 8792 acres, 480 houses, and 2242 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.

* Among the Cornish romances, the following is related of the saint of this parish. St. Just came in a friendly manner to pay a visit to St. Keverne, in whose house he was entertained with the greatest hospitality for several days. It seems however, that soon after his departure, St. Keverne having missed a piece of plate, began to suspect the honesty of his guest; and to bring this matter to an issue, he pursued him, resolving to make him restore the stolen article, or to give proof of his honesty. Anticipating a combat, on crossing Crowsaz Downs, he took up three stones, each weighing full 300 pounds, and put them into his pocket; and being thus armed, pursued his brother saint, whom he overtook in the parish of Germoe, and charged immediately with the robbery. St. Just denied the charge, and a contest immediately ensued; but St. Keverne being armed with his three stones, soon obtained a complete victory; and having recovered his plate, returned. His stones however, being now of no further use, and being rather cumbersome, he sunk triangularly into the ground in a little nook on the right hand side of the road between Breage and Marazion, where they continue to the present day, as monuments of what ancient saints could accomplish. Many times they are said to have been removed for buildings; but to what place soever they have been carried, they have always found their way back again during the night. It is somewhat remarkable, that these are actually of the same grit with the iron stone of Crowsaz Downs, and that none besides of this kind are to be found in Breage or Germoe.

LALANT or LELANT.

This parish stretches on the banks of the Hayle, from which many beautiful views are commanded, and lies about three miles from St. Ives. In some old records it is written Lan-nant, which term is said to imply "the church by the river."

This is one of those parishes which have suffered severely in past years by the accumulation of sand. Norden mentions this as having "somytyme been a haven towne, but then of late decayed, by reason of the sande which had choaked the harbour, and buried muche of the lande and howses." He also adds, "that many devises they use to prevent the obsorpatation (absorption) of the church." In this neighbourhood a tradition still prevails, of a considerable town having formerly stood near the church, which was finally buried and lost in the sands. The same tradition adds, that the trade of the Hayle was formerly on the Lelant side, until the accumulating sands compelled the inhabitants to retire farther to the south. At present indeed the principal population of this parish is at Lelant town, higher up on the Hayle towards Trevethow. The voice of tradition also reports, that the driving of these sands began so suddenly, increased so rapidly, and continued so incessantly, as in the short compass of two nights to bury many of the houses. Some of these habitations have since been found, by men digging in the sand, and in a few instances with furniture in them. Even the ancient castle of Theodore or Theodorick, king of Cornwall, who reigned here when Breaca and her companions landed, is said by some to have been buried in the sands at Rivier or Revyer in this neighbourhood, where concealed from observation, the venerable fabric still

remains. So lately as the year 1780, the increasing sand threatened the church with a serious deluge. It had arisen nearly as high as the church-yard wall, the boundaries of which in some places were hardly discernible.

Besides the church town, at which there is a cattle fair on the 15th of August, the principal villages are Brunian and Tredreath, alias Lower Lelant town. The church of St. Uny Lelant is uniformly considered as the mother church, both of St. Ives and Towednack. The glebe lands formerly consisted of fifty acres; but in consequence of the accumulating sands, no more than eight acres are at present capable of cultivation.

Within the church are some memorials of the family of Pawley bearing date in 1625 and 1721. This family had their seat at Goonwin or Gunwin; the old mansion has been demolished, and two farm houses now occupy its site.

Trevethow, the 'ancient seat of the Praed family, has of late years been almost deserted, the present proprietor residing principally at Tyringham, in Buckinghamshire. A part of the house is occupied by the tenants.

The seat of John Hals, one of the justices of the Common Pleas in the reign of Henry V. was on the manor of Trembethow.

From several places in Lelant the scenery is pleasingly diversified, and peculiarly interesting to the contemplative mind. The busy picture of Phillack Creek, the deep and capacious bay of St. Ives, the distant hills which present themselves to view, the various inlets of the ocean, and the hillocks of sand partly covered with vegetation, and partly exposed to the tempests which assail them, communicate to the mind such various associations of ideas, as nothing but such diversified scenery can inspire.

In this parish is a yellow clay, much in request for build-

ing furnaces and ovens, large quantities of which are exported to Bristol, Wales, and other places every year. Bricks composed of this clay, at first vitrify in the fire, and run into one solid body; but after this they undergo the most intense heat without any further alteration.

Lelant contains 3279 acres, 228 houses, and 1180 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



LANDEWEDNACK.

The name of this parish, which is purely Cornish, implies "the white roof holy church, or church of God;" and it was in all probability given to this district when Christianity either gained a footing, or obtained an ascendancy over Druidism in Cornwall.

Landewednack lies on the extremity of the largest district of Meneage, and includes the Lizard lighthouses, and the southernmost land in Britain. Its distance from Falmouth is about fourteen miles across the harbour of Helford, and about nine miles from Helston, its post town. Besides the church town, it has a cluster of houses near the Lizard Point, which is generally distinguished by the name of Lizard Town.

The doorway of the church assumes an appearance of considerable antiquity, being ornamented with mouldings that are purely Saxon, and having a semicircular arch. The font seems also of an ancient date. It is decorated with stars and trefoils; and, in addition to the common ornaments engraven on such ecclesiastical utensils, it has this inscription:—"Ihc—D. Ric. Bolham me fecit." The date of this font and its inscription cannot be precisely ascertained; from the particular form of the letters, the in-

scription is supposed to have been engraven in the thirteenth century.

Although two lighthouses have been erected on that bold projection into the British Channel, the Lizard, their light has not at all times furnished a sufficient caution, or sufficient security, to mariners. They front towards the south, and stand nearly abreast of each other. But through the fury of the winds and seas, and the awful darkness with which the tempests of Cornwall are often accompanied, ships are frequently driven on shore, particularly foreigners, and beaten to pieces at the base of the projecting point. When these melancholy catastrophes happen by night, the howling of the storm, and the roaring of the waves, prevent the cries of the perishing seamen from being heard, while the darkness that reigns conceals the mournful scene from every eye. The disaster is only known in the morning by the fragments of the wreck, which are seen beating against the rocks, and the mangled bodies of the seamen that are distinguished among the crags, or seen occasionally lifted up by the surges of the boiling deep. Sometimes indeed, these awful disasters happen in open day; and instances have occurred, in which the seamen, sensible of their situation, have seen immediately before them "the horrors of a leeward shore," and death apparently with expanded jaws waiting for his prey, without being able to avert their impending doom. Driven onward by the uncontrollable fury of the convulsed elements, their vessels and themselves have perished in the sight of spectators above, who are unable to render them the least assistance, the cape being so steep, and so fenced with rocks, as to prohibit all communication. It is however but just to state, that whenever an occasion of assisting these victims of the storm presents itself, the neighbouring inhabitants are ever ready to obey the dictates

of humanity. The Lizard Point bears some resemblance to the Land's End, but falls considerably short of its sublimity. Such travellers therefore, as wish to enjoy in their regular gradations the terrible scenery of Cornwall, should visit this cape prior to their excursion to the Land's End. Both will then have their proper effect; and the grandeur of the former will be felt without diminishing the magnificence of the latter.

The rocks around the Lizard Point consist of serpentine, of the most beautiful hues, including every variety of green; from a pea-colour, to a shade almost black, enlivened by tints of purple, red, and scarlet.

The Lizard Cape is much subject to severe rains, which are supposed to fall on an average nearly seven months in the year. Winds from the south-west prevail also in nearly the same proportion. The country around is rather barren and dreary; and but few trees can be found in the vicinity. In several directions a vast expanse meets the eye; but the various objects are too remote to be accurately defined, if they can be distinctly seen. The ideas which they are calculated to beget, apparently exclude every thing that can enliven the mind with scenes of domestic beauty, and exhibit nature with an aspect at once forlorn, wild, angry, and magnificent.

Landewednack romantic fishing cove, is much improved by having cellars built and the rocks excavated, in order to render it more commodious.

On the Lizard downs, there is an amphitheatre, about a quarter of a mile from the church of Landewednack.

This parish has been remarkable for several instances of extraordinary longevity. Mr. Thomas Cole, minister of this parish, at the age of one hundred and twenty years, walked to Penryn and back again, a distance of thirty miles,

in one day; he died in the year 1683. Michael George, sexton, also of this parish was upwards of a hundred years old; he died about the year 1752. This parish was visited by the plague about the year 1645.

Mr. James, late of St. Keverne, says "a person came from the Mount with a branch of the tamarisk, which he used for a whip, and that he carelessly stuck it into a hedge in this parish, where it has been propogated, and grown ever since."

In this parish ninety bushels of barley, Winchester measure, have been produced on an acre, statute measure; it is not uncommon to have from seventy to eighty bushels, seventy-five being considered as a middling crop.

Landewednack contains 1843 acres, 59 houses, and 303 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



ST. LEVAN.

This parish was a place of some celebrity when Christianity first triumphed over the horrid rites of Druidism. St. Levan's well is recorded for its miraculous excellencies in the rolls of superstitious fame. Over this well, which is still preserved with careful veneration, there is an ancient oratory, five feet square, and seven feet high. About a quarter of a mile from this holy fountain, is the site of an ancient chapel called Port Chapel, and about a mile to the eastward is the site of another called Curnow; but little more is known of them than their situations and their names.

The principal villages in this parish are Treryn or Treen, Bosistow, Raughtra, commonly called Rafton, Tregothal, and Trebean.

St. Levan is about eight miles nearly south-west from Penzance, and about three miles south-east from what is generally termed Sennen Land's End. As the rival of Cape Cornwall, St. Levan claims the honour of including Tolpedn Penwith, a promontory which frequently bears the name of the Land's End; but it is popularly called St. Levan's Land's End, to distinguish it from Cape Cornwall.

Tolpedn Penwith is divided from the main land by an ancient stone wall. Several appearances on the cliffs strongly indicate that some ancient fortifications existed here, and this wall might probably have formerly been connected with the means of defence.

About a mile and half to the east of this point, is Treryn Castle, or Castle Treryn. It is enclosed by two formidable ramparts and ditches, one within the other, stretching in a semicircular form from the sides of the cliff. The perpendicular rocks form three sides of this fortification; and the land side is guarded by these high and thick embankments. Descending from this cape towards the sea, three groups of rocks appear before us, which seem to be formed of perpendicular crags or columns, the bases of which project with wild disorder into the sea. On the western side of the middle group, and not far from the craggy summit, an enormous logging-stone has found its bed. This extraordinary stone, which is a block of granite, and weighs by estimation about ninety tons, has, projecting from its bottom, a kind of central ridge, upon which it is so nicely poised, that resting as it does, on the flat surface of another rock, a small degree of force can easily move it from side to side, through the space of a few inches. But as the extremities of its base are at considerable distance from the central ridge on which it moves or logs, and consequently at a distance still greater from each other;

and as the whole mass is so well secured by its nearness to the widely extended surface of the rock on which it rests, it is scarcely possible that any mechanical power can be applied to remove it from its present situation. And certain it is, that no lever or powerful engine can in any form whatever derive the least assistance, in its removal, from that singular property of logging, which it possesses.

As it must be attended with inconceivable difficulty to remove this enormous block from its native bed, so it must have been attended with so many to bring it hither by human art and power, as might justify us in pronouncing it to be impossible. It is not without considerable trouble, that the rocks can be scaled with which it is surrounded ; and many who have proceeded to the group of rocks on which it rests, have been deterred from ascending the winding path, if such it may be termed, which leads over crags and chasms to its elevated but sublime abode. It is not easy to conceive a situation of more magnificent grandeur than the station which it fills. Surrounded by an immense pile of rocks, in an elevated region, where the reign of silence is interrupted only by the screams of sea birds, the roaring of tempests, and the dashing of waves, this enormous logging-stone seems to frown in solitude over that desolation which its appearance augments. It is scarcely possible for any one to ascend this venerable pile, and contemplate the awful scenery with which he is encircled, without having his mind inspired with the mingled emotions of terror and admiration.

Near Tolpedn Penwith, is the Funnel Rock, which is excavated perpendicularly, and resembles a vast inverted cone. In this cavity the Cornish chough has built her nest for several years past. The Runnel-Stone which lies nearly opposite to this rock, has proved fatal to many vessels.

The irregularity of the tides occasioned by the promontories of the western part of Cornwall, and the vicinity of the Scilly Islands, makes it necessary to describe it, viz.—At the height of a common spring tide, the water at the Land's End rises about eighteen feet, increasing from this to twenty-four feet in proportion as the wind operates in its favour. But in stormy weather, when a gale from south-west has urged the tide with peculiar violence, the water has been known to rise full thirty feet. In neap tides it in general rises no more than thirteen feet; and on some particular occasions it has been known not to exceed ten. During its flood, the tide at the Land's End sets inward from the south nearly nine hours; but its general run between Scilly and the Land's End is about eight hours, while its ebb continues only between three and four. The highest spring tides are about two days and half after the full and new moon; and the ebbs and floods are about one hour and fifty-five minutes later than at London Bridge.

The barton of Bosistow was at a very early period the seat of a family of that name.

St. Levan contains 2079 acres, 84 houses, and 434 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



LUDGVAN.

The name of this parish is said by Dr. Pryce to signify *high placed tower*. The church however, is presumed to have its patron saint; but whether it was dedicated to Paul or Luduan, is a point which has led to some debates. It is more probable, whatever saint might have presided over the church, that this name which the parish bears, was originally applied to an ancient and extensive manor, which was

well-known at the Norman Conquest in this district. The manor of Luduham, which in Domesday Survey appears to be one of the 288 manors given to Robert Earl of Moreton, comprehended the parishes of Lelant, Towednack, and St. Ives, which are now so many districts.

Ludgvan is about three miles nearly north-west from Marazion, and nearly the same distance north-east from Penzance. Its principal villages are Boggyhere, Carvossen Downs, Crowliss, Ludgvan Lees, and Tornewidden.

This parish was the abode of the justly celebrated Dr. William Borlase, the author of many valuable works.

Treassow, a considerable estate in this parish, has been for many generations in the Rogers family, who had their principal residence here before they purchased Penrose. It came to them, partly by purchase, and partly by descent, from the Bowdens, about the time of the Revolution. Near the house which is very ancient, is an old castle called Castle-an-Dinas, having three walls of circumvallation. It is situated on one of the highest hills in Penwith; and from it may be seen on a clear day twenty-four parish churches, and also the north and south seas at no great distance from each other. On removing the ground for planting, some years since, within this fortification, two stone weights were found, through each of which was a hole for passing a rope, which holes were apparently much worn by friction. Some pieces of stone vessels, two ancient swords, and a large gold ring, with the arms of Pendarves in a kind of signet, bearing the initials J. P. and the date 1587, were also found; these articles are now in the possession of John Rogers, Esq. of Penrose.

It appears that there were formerly chapels at Trewell, at Ludgvan Lees, and on a tenement called Collurian. Of this latter there are still some remains. It was dedicated to St.

Thomas, in consequence of which it has been corruptedly called Tubmas-Chapel.

Dr. Oliver, an eminent physician of Bath, was a native of this parish. He was descended from the Olivers of Treenere, and died in 1764.

Among the chalybeate springs of this county, Dr. Borlase reckons one that rises in the tenement of Collurian. "The bed through which this water flows, is a loose pebbly ground, mixed with gravelly clay, full of the ochrous iron mineral, from which the taste and smell of the waters proceed. This is the strongest water of the kind, and most remarkable for its cures, which I have heard of, or had opportunity of examining." Of some curious green stones found in Wheal Fortune mine in this parish, the same author also takes notice. "These stones come very near in their properties to the turcois, and have been taken for such by naturalists." He also mentions a singular kind of dove-coloured granite found in this parish, and another species having a red ground, and possessing many singular properties. Of mundic yielding its arsenic to the influence of water, Dr. Borlase gives an instance that happened in this parish. "At times it yields that or some other poison so copiously, that I have known a tinner, Edmund Thomas, who by washing his wounded leg in a very strong mundic-water from Ludgvan-lez mine, brought on such a gangrene, that it soon killed him." He also mentions "that a flock of ten geese in this parish having drunk of a river at a time when it was strongly tainted with mundic, nine of them died immediately on their return to the bank."

In the church of Ludgvan there is an epitaph on the tomb of John South, M. A. rector of this parish, who died on the 6th of October, 1636; which, from the singularity of its style and expression we have copied it.

“Let nature’s coarser children have
A tongueless tomb, or but a grave;
South the meridian point of wit
Can never set, but shine in it.
Ripe artist, and divine inspir’d,
Thou liv’dst, thou diedst, belov’d, admir’d.
Hyperbolize I do not:—true,
All’s here; dear, dearest friend adieu.”

Ludgvan church also contains two flat monumental stones for Dr. Borlase and his wife. This learned man was forty years vicar of his native parish, St. Just, as well as fifty-two years rector of Ludgvan, where he died, August 31st, 1772.

The sum of £6 per annum, which was bequeathed to this parish for charitable uses, has been long appropriated to the instruction of poor children.

The second steam-engine that ever was erected in the county, was erected by Mr. Lemon on Wheal Fortune mine in this parish, about seventy years since.

About half a mile from the church town is a vallum thrown up, during the civil war, by the parliamentary forces, when they besieged St. Michael’s Mount.

Messrs. Gundries have a tin smelting-house in this parish.

Ludgvan contains 3941 acres, 269 houses, and 1431 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



MABE.

This parish is neither large nor populous; it is situated about two miles and half nearly north-west from Penryn, and contains but little to recommend it to particular notice. In some old records this parish bears the name of Lavabe or Lavapper, and at other times Lan-Mabe, which implies the church of Mabe. As a district parish its antiquity can-

not be compared to that of many other parishes; since it was formerly appropriated to the rich college of Glassney, at Penryn, and in conjunction with Milor, it forms at present only a consolidated vicarage.

From this parish immense quantities of granite are exported for bridges and other public buildings. This stone may be brought to a high state of perfection, which may be seen in Mr. Rashleigh's elegant grotto, where there is a table inlaid with thirty-two polished specimens of Cornish granite. The method of splitting these immense rocks is by applying several wedges to holes bored in the surface of the stone, at the distance of about six inches from each other, according to its size and supposed hardness. The harder the mass, the easier it may be cut into the required form, the softer the less regularly it separates.

The barton of Tremough, after furnishing a seat to a family of this name from time immemorial, was carried by a female heir to Blois of Penryn, with whom it rested until 1703, when it was sold to John Worth, Esq. who enclosed a large park, and erected an elegant mansion. But this building is now in ruins, and the park is added to the estate.

Carveth was anciently the seat of the Carveths, one of whose ancestors had married Otho Penaluna. In the reign of Charles I. this estate was sold to Thomas Melhuish.

Mabe contains 2029 acres, 61 houses, and 396 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier



MADERN or MADRON.

This parish is much celebrated in the records of antiquity for the supposed miraculous virtues of its well. And is of considerable importance, as it includes the large, populous,

and flourishing town of Penzance (which is described under the head Penzance). Its church is about a mile from this place.

The church contains memorials for the families of Borlase, Fleming, Harris, and Nicholls; and has a neat altar-piece, which was erected in 1810. The minister's seat, the niche for the image of the patron saint, and the piscina on the south side of the altar, are still perfect.

An ancient chapel formerly stood at Lanyon, which was dedicated to St. Bridget; another stood in some other part of the parish under the same patronage, but the history of both appears to be lost.

Through the benevolence of Mr. Daniel George, a school was founded about the year 1704, for the instruction of poor children belonging to this parish and its chapelries, in reading, writing, and arithmetic. And that it might not fail for want of support, he endowed it with a house and garden for the master, and with certain lands and premises which are now let at £122 per annum.

To Madern Well many extraordinary properties have been ascribed. Dr. Borlase says, "the soil round this well is black, boggy, and light; but the stratum through which the spring rises, is a grey moorstone gravel. Here, people who labour under pains, aches, and stiffness of limbs, come and wash, and many cures are said to have been performed, although the water can only act by its cold and limpid nature; forasmuch as it has no perceivable mineral impregnation."

To this miraculous fountain, the uneasy, the impatient, the fearful, the jealous, and the superstitious, resort to learn their future destiny from the unconscious waters. By dropping pins or pebbles into the fountain, by shaking the ground around the spring, or by contriving to raise bubbles

from the bottom, on certain lucky days, and when the moon is in a particular stage of increase or decrease, the secrets of the well are presumed to be extorted. It is not however, in natural causes to flatter folly; and therefore the anxious are not always satisfied with the omens they procure. Defeated in one attempt, they come again; and frequently confirm by their renewed application the painful uneasiness from which they thus foolishly endeavour to procure a deliverance. The water of Madern Well is therefore alike calculated to sooth the distressed, to alleviate or to increase the gloom of the melancholy, the suspicions of the jealous, and the passion of the enamoured.

Of wells or springs that formerly had chapels or oratories erected over them, the number must have been very great; since there are not many of any note where some vestiges of these buildings are not to be found. The greater part are now lying in a heap of ruins; some of these have been demolished by the rage of fanaticism, not less violent and ferocious, than the superstition which erected them was gloomy and blind. To this cause may be attributed the demolition of a chapel which once graced Madern Well. This was destroyed in the days of Cromwell by the pious fanaticism of Major Ceely, who then resided at St. Ives; and little doubt can be entertained that many others have fallen by the hands of domestic crusaders in a similar manner, and probably at the same period, when to mutilate and to destroy created the religious merit and triumph of the day. Others have fallen victims to the ravages of time; and the ruins of all are mingled in one common grave.

In this parish there is a stratum of clay, which serves to make bricks for smelting-houses, being capable of enduring the most intense heat of the furnace.

Lanyon, on which there was a large cromlech,* (this fell in on the night of October 19th, 1815. A most stormy night when the Delhi East Indiaman was wrecked in Mount's Bay) was the seat of the Lanyon family.

Trengwainton, which was formerly the seat of the Cowlins, is the property of Sir Rose Price, bart. who is now building a stately mansion on it for his own residence.

Castle Horneck, which signifies *the iron castle*, is situated, according to Norden, on the site of "an ancient ruined castle." It stands on a mount near Penzance, and appears to have been in former times a place of some importance. An ancient castle, said to have been built by the family of Tyes, is supposed to have stood near Penzance; but whether by this Castle Horneck he intended, seems rather uncertain, as the castle ascribed to the Tyes is stated to have stood on the north of the town, where some earthworks are still visible. This place is called Lescaddock. Castle Horneck was for several generations a seat of the family of Levelis; but it has been for about a century in the Borlase family.

* Dr. Borlase says, "in 1749, a very intelligent farmer of the neighbourhood assured me, that he had known many persons who had crept through this holed stone for pains in their backs and limbs; and that fanciful parents, at certain seasons of the year do customarily draw their children through in order to cure them of the rickets. He shewed me also two brass pins carefully laid across each other on the top edge of this holed stone. This is the way of the over curious, even at this time; and by recurring to these pins, and observing their direction to be the same, or different from what they left them in, or by their being lost or gone, they are informed of some material incident of love or fortune, which they could not know soon enough in a natural way, and immediately take such resolutions as their informations from these prophetic stones suggest."

Trereife has been the family seat of the Nicholls's from time immemorial. Dr. Nicholls, physician to George II. who opened the body of the king for the purpose of ascertaining the cause of his death, which he described in a paper addressed to the Royal Society, was second son of John Nicholls. This family intermarried with the families of Godolphin and Foote. William John Godolphin Nicholls, Esq. the last survivor of the elder branch of the family, died May 9, 1815, and bequeathed all his estates to his mother, (Ustick of Botallack) who married the Rev. Charles Valentine Le Grice.

Larrigon commands the whole of Mount's Bay, St. Michael's Mount, Penzance, and Newlyn, is the seat of Thomas Pascoe, Esq.

Nansalvern, the seat of I. Scobell, Esq.

Poltair, the seat of G. Scobell, D. D.

Rosecadwell, the seat of John Tremeneer, Esq.

Rosehill, from its gardens, plantations, and romantic scenery, make the situation delightfully pleasing, and was formerly the seat of Richard Oxnam, Esq.

Treneere, the seat of the Rev. Anthony Williams, is also in this parish.

Madern contains 5450 acres, 319 houses, and 1817 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.

◆

MANACCAN.

This parish stretches on the banks of Helford Harbour and is about ten miles from Helston. Exclusive of the church town, Helford is its principal village. It is sheltered in a winding nook by surrounding hills, and is regularly visited by every returning tide. From this place there is

a passage across the harbour, both for horse and foot passengers, which communicates with the public road leading to Falmouth, from which the distance is about five miles. A small trade is carried on at this village in timber, lime, and coals; but the adjoining hills being steep of ascent, render the land carriage from this place very difficult.

The name of this parish, Manaccan or Menackan, signifies the stony creek, or the haven of white stones; being thus denominated in all probability, from the stones and pebbles which were formerly scattered on its shores with more profusion than they at present exhibit.

Some account has already been given under the head Constantine, of Helford Harbour. Its proximity to Falmouth renders it unimportant; but on many of its extensive branches, which spread into the country, a considerable trade is continually carried on. Carew intimates that this harbour was formerly much frequented by pirates, "whose guilty breasts, with an eye in their backs, look warily how they may go out again, before they will presume to enter."

In speaking of the adjoining parish of St. Anthony, we have intimated, that it was probably disjoined from Manaccan at a very early period. At the present time these two parishes belong to the same division, for the purpose of furnishing the inhabitants with an opportunity of paying their taxes with the least inconvenience. But whether this modern accommodation has any reference to the ancient connexion, or is founded solely on local considerations, it will be difficult to determine.

The church town of Manaccan is a scattered village, containing several houses, and overlooking a fertile and romantic little valley. Its church and tower seem to display many marks of great antiquity; but they contain nothing remarkable.

At a place called Tregonnel, are some vestiges of an ancient chapel, but its history is unknown.

Kestell or Kestle formerly belonged to a family of that name, who had a seat on it.

At Rosmorder there is an intrenchment, consisting of a double fosse. It runs parallel with the road leading from Helston to St. Keverne, defending the pass over Tregidden-bridge.

The pasturage of this parish being superior to many others, we state the following remarkable instance of produce by a cow late the property of Mr. Nathaniel Roskruge. This cow was bred on Tregonnel in this parish, and bought by Roskruge, when young; after which he kept her as a dairy cow. While in milking, being surprized at the great produce of this cow, he was induced to try the weight of butter produced from one common meal of milk, which weighed 33 ounces; at which rate a day's produce was 66 ounces, making 4lbs. 2oz. avoirdupoise weight. When fat, she was killed, and weighed 7cwt. She had two calves at a birth, male and female, which were reared for labour, after which they were fed and killed, weighing 10cwt. each.

Manaccan contains 1371 acres, 107 houses, and 506 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



ST. MARTIN.

This parish is generally designated St. Martin in Me-neage, to distinguish it from that which is near Looe. It seems to have derived its name from an ancient nunnery called Helnowith; which lies within this district, or rather from St. Martin of Tours, to whom this nunnery was

dedicated, but every vestige of the nunnery has disappeared. It forms in connexion with Mawgan in Meneage a consolidated rectory.

On the estate which is now denominated Gear, from three fields so called, is a strong circumvallation, by which they are enclosed. It is perfectly circular, and the space which it encloses contains about fourteen acres. The greater part of the fosse is very deep. This camp lies about half a mile to the north of Trelowarren. It is one of the largest military works in the district of Meneage. The only article of remote antiquity found in it was a copper coin, but its impression was quite defaced. A cannon ball was also discovered in the fosse, from which it is inferred that it was occupied by military forces during the time of the civil war ; but the camp has been referred to the days of the Romans or Saxons.

Between this camp and the church, about a quarter of a mile from the former, on an estate called Car-vallack, is another camp, which probably gave its name to the estate. Car-vallack may probably mean *Caer-Vallum, the castle with the deep ditch*. This also is perfectly circular. The area is about an acre, and the fosse is remarkably deep. Within this fosse, tradition says there was formerly another, but of this no trace remains, the ground being nearly as level as a bowling-green. From the main fosse runs out another in a straight line about north-north-west, which crossing the public road, leads to a well, properly stoned up, probably for the supply of the camp with water. On the head of Gweek wood, about a mile and a half from the Gear or Gaer, is another small camp. These three fortifications stand in a straight line, on elevated situations, in sight of each other.

Tremayne, which originally gave its name to the Tre-

maynes, who had their seat here, was carried by an heiress of an elder branch, in marriage to the Trethurfes, and from them to the Reskymers; of which family in Leland's time it was the principal seat. At a more modern period it was for some time the abode of Captain Wallis, the celebrated circumnavigator.

Mudgian was formerly the seat of a family of that name.

St. Martin contains 2023 acres, 80 houses, and 391 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



MARAZION or MARKETJEW.

This corporate and market town is in the parish of St. Hilary, standing on the sea shore, on the eastern side of Mount's Bay.

When the inhabitants of the Mount decreased and its town became nearly depopulated the market was removed to its opposite shore, and thus gave to the town the name of Marketjew, which in most old writings was its primitive designation.

By the charter of Elizabeth, the government of this town is vested in a mayor, eight aldermen, and twelve capital burgesses. In the preamble to this charter it is stated, that "Marghaisewe was a trading borough town of great antiquity, and that it suffered considerable dilapidation in the days of Edward VI. when a number of rebellious people entered and took possession of the town, and laid many of the buildings in ruins." From this disaster the town never fully recovered; and from the growing influence of Penzance, the suppression of the priory, and the loss of the pilgrims from whom it derived its principal importance, its

dignity gradually declined, until Marazion became as it now appears. It has been asserted on good authority, that under this charter of Elizabeth, Marazion formerly sent members to parliament; and Dr. Borlase in his manuscript collections, mentions Thomas Westlake, and Richard Mill, Esqrs. as two members who were actually returned for Marazion in the year 1658; but it does not appear that they ever took their seats. It is also probable, from some original letters which passed between the sheriff of Cornwall and the mayor of this borough, during the protectorate of Cromwell, that the inhabitants were solicitous to recover their long neglected rights; but their efforts proved ineffectual.

The town of Marazion stands at the foot of a long but very gently declining hill, by which it is sheltered from the piercing northern blast. Its aspect is peculiarly pleasant; the Mount rises in majestic grandeur immediately before it, surrounded with an expanse of water, and such diversified scenery, as render the prospect particularly delightful. Perhaps without any exception, this little town can boast of a warmer climate than any other in England. This circumstance, added to the enlivening prospects with which it is encircled, and the beautiful level green, about three miles in length, over which the public road leading from hence to Penzance is carried on the margin of the tide, renders this vicinity singularly inviting to invalids and valetudinarians. The rains indeed which frequently fall, may operate to its disadvantage, in the estimation of those who wish constantly to walk abroad; but these rains are rather inconvenient than pernicious; as perhaps neither Italy nor the south of France can boast a more salubrious atmosphere.

Its trade at present consists chiefly in the pilchard fishery, and the importation of corn, flour, timber, coals, and iron,

for the use of the inhabitants and the neighbouring mines. The parish church is about two miles distant from this place; but for the accommodation of the inhabitants, a chapel of ease has been long established in the town, in which divine service is regularly performed by a lecturer, whose salary is defrayed by private contributions. There are also three meeting-houses in this place; belonging to the Quakers, Methodists, and Baptists.

The level green over which the road from Marazion to Penzance passes, is evidently nothing more than the surface of a continued bar of sand, behind which, towards the land, lies a large tract of marshy ground, over which the tide no doubt formerly flowed. Some years since Mr. Richard Moyle of Marazion, undertook to rescue a portion of this bog from its unprofitable condition; and by his spirited exertions he so far succeeded, as to bring about seventy acres into useful land, from which both corn and potatoes have been produced in several crops. For this noble and successful effort, he received from the Society for the promotion of arts, manufactures, and commerce, a gold medal; and also a handsome premium from the Agricultural Board.—This land is getting fast into decay.

On cutting open the drains the labourers discovered an earthen pot, in which they found nearly a thousand Roman copper coins. Many of these were much corroded by the salt water, to which they had been exposed for ages; but the impressions on several were sufficiently legible to furnish evidence that they were of the emperors who lived between the years 260 and 350.

A vast number of hazel-boughs with perfect nuts adhering to them, have been found between Marazion and Penzance, below the natural bed of soil.

About half way between Marazion* and Chyandower, about 300 yards below high water mark, were seen a few years ago, by Mr. Giddy of Penzance, upon an extraordinary recession of the tide, several stumps of trees in their native soil, with the roots shooting out from them, and with their stems apparently cut off. These trees had been felled, in apprehension of the coming encroachment; while the whole trees had been either surprised or neglected.

Hals and Tonkin, adverting to the fact of which Leland speaks of Marketjew being "burnid a Gallis," assert that a party of French soldiers landed from a fleet then cruising in the Channel, took Marazion, and actually set it on fire; but at length they found themselves opposed by Carminow or Erisey, at the head of a powerful party, who compelled them to retreat to their ships. The charter of Elizabeth attributes the decay of this town to a subsequent but similar calamity. In this charter it is stated, that it was a trading town of great note, but that it fell into decay in the reign of Edward VI. when it was again set on fire by the rebels; and that at the time this charter was granted in 1595, most of the public buildings and dwelling-houses were in a ruinous condition.

On the south side of this town is Chapel Rock, on which tradition reports a chapel to have once stood, dedicated to the Virgin Mary; but no vestige of it has been discernible

* From Tonkin's MS. "The inhabitants of Marketjew have a tradition, that the greatest part of their houses (in which there is fine old carved work) were built with oak-trees that grew between the Mount and Newlyn." He also says "that off the Long-Rock (between the Mount and Penzance) may be seen in a clear day, about twenty feet under water, a firm wall running out directly to the south, and that for a long way. This (they say) was the wall of a park there."

within the memory of man. The rock on which this chapel must have stood, is about 150 yards in circumference; but the level part of it, on which alone the building could have been erected, is about forty-five feet long, and eighteen or twenty broad. On the use to which this chapel was applied, the reports of tradition are not uniform. According to one account, it was erected purposely for the inhabitants of the town; but according to another, it was appropriated to the use of pilgrims, who came to visit the priory on the Mount, but who were compelled to pass through some initiatory rights in this chapel, before they were permitted to ascend the sacred hill. This rock, though now about 100 yards distant from the main land, is said to have then been contiguous with it.

On the east of Marazion, many yards of the cliff have been washed away within about forty years, for nearly half a mile in length; the soil of the cliff being soft, and the spring tides pressing against it with considerable violence. About eighty or ninety years since, a spring tide was driven by a dreadful hurricane with such violence upon the town, as to beat down a whole row of houses, and to carry them with their foundations into the sea.

Mr. Fortescue Hitchins, died at Marazion in the year 1814. He exhibited no common share of taste, and vis poetica in his "Sea Shore," "Tears of Cornubia," for the loss of Admiral Reynolds, in the St. George, and other pieces.

Marazion contains about 230 houses, and 1100 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.—It is 279 miles from London; 106 from Exeter; 24 from Truro, and 3 from Penzance.

MAWGAN in MENEAGE.

This parish lies about three miles and half east-south-east from Helston. The principal memorial of antiquity which this parish contains, is its venerable cross. It stands near the church, on the side of the public road, leading from thence to Helston. The letters of this inscription are verging to decay; they are preserved in several publications, and are read by Dr. Borlase as follows:

CNEGUMI FIL. ENANS.

It is understood to be a sepulchral monument.

From the diversified opinions of Camden, Moyle, and Borlase, nothing can be inferred that will fix with precision either the date of the inscription, or the quality of the person interred. Relying however, on the observation and learning of those who inspected them when they were more legible, we are led by Dr. Borlase to conclude, that this monument must be about 900 years old.

At Carminow there was a very ancient chapel, the ruins of which were visible in the days of Tonkin.

In this parish were seated two of the greatest families in the county, Carminow and Roskymer. Carminow, "the little city;" pleasantly seated on an advanced rising to the east of the Loe Pool. Part of which pool hence called Carminow-creek, belongs to this place. It gave name and habitation to that most ancient and eminent family, who pretended to derive themselves in a direct male line from king Arthur. It is said that one of the Carminow family, was an ambassador from Edward the Confessor, to William the Conqueror, then duke of Normandy.

"In a field near Trelowarren, there was opened, in July 1751, an earthen barrow, very wide in circumference, but

not five feet high. As the workmen came to the middle of the barrow, they found a parcel of stones set in some order, which being removed, discovered a cavity about two feet in diameter, and of equal height. It was surrounded and covered with stones, and enclosed bones of all sorts, legs, arms, ribs, &c. and intermixed with them some wood ashes. There was no urn here; but at the distance of a few feet from the central cavity, there were found two urns, one on each side, with their mouths turned downwards, and small bones and ashes enclosed.

About a quarter of a mile to the west of Trelowarren is a cave, which lies nearly concealed from observation under the turf and soil. The rooms of this cave are about seven feet high, having roofs and walls of massy unhewn stones; but their original size and extent cannot be ascertained, from the roof-work having fallen in, which obstructs their passages.

Trelowarren; this fine Gothic building is not lofty but extensive, having more comfort than magnificence. Francis Vyvyan, Esq. father of Sir Richard Vyvyan, who was created a baronet in 1644, is said by Hals to have built this mansion. But according to Borlase, it was not a new edifice. The greater part of the old building was preserved. It is now the seat of Sir Vyel Vyvyan, bart. who is making great improvements both in the internal and external appearance. The gardens and plantations are both extensive and pleasing.

In the rebellion of 1715, many Cornish gentlemen were sent to the tower, on suspicion of being friends to the pretender; among others Sir Francis Vyvyan of Trelowarren. It was about the time of evening service when the emissaries of — arrived at Trelowarren. Sir F. Vyvyan begged permission to read prayers to his family; and after having

gone through the service with his usual composure of mind, resigned himself prisoner into their hands. He was conveyed to the tower; where he was detained a considerable time, and was forced to pay many thousand pounds for his enlargement. The late Miss Ann Vyvyan was born there.

Treverry seat is the property of S. Pellew, Esq.

Mawgan contains 4573 acres, 165 houses, and 800 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.

MAWNAN.

This parish is about five miles south-south-west from Falmouth, and nearly the same distance from Penryn. The principal village in this parish is Mawnan-Smith, it is bounded on the south by the British Channel.

The barton of Penwarne had formerly attached to it great privileges which extended over Budock parish, and in ancient times it had on it an old venerable chapel and burying-place, before the church of Mawnan was erected. Hals says, from Penwarne was denominated an old British family of gentlemen, (who by possession of these lands is bailiff or lord of the bailiwick of the hundred of Kirrier by inheritance) whose ancestors have been possessed thereof beyond the records of time, and have in former ages been possessed of divers other lands of considerable value in these parts.

Penwarne is now the seat of Stephen Usticke, Esq.

Budock-vean is the seat of Francis Pendar, Esq. This estate as also Traba and Traba Wortha although encircled by Mawnan and the sea, is in the parish of Constantine, the inhabitants of which cannot go out of their parish without going through Mawnan, or by water.

Berreppa is the seat of Captain Boulderson, formerly of the packet establishment.

Meudon was an ancient seat of the family of Kemps, lately occupied by R. W. Fox, Esq. and now used as a farm house.

Mawnan contains 1702 acres, 86 houses, and 397 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.

MILOR.

This parish is two miles and half east-north-east from Penryn, and forms the south-south-east side of Falmouth Harbour.

So prevalent was the spirit of heathenism in the year 411, that Melor, from whom the parish of Milor probably derives its name, though the son of Melianus, duke of Cornwall, suffered martyrdom, which was attended with circumstances of aggravated cruelty. He was put to death by order of his uncle Rinaldus, a pagan, who inhumanly commanded the executioner to cut off first his right hand, then his left leg; and after this his head.

Flushing, an ancient and considerable village in this parish, lying opposite the northern extremity of Falmouth, whence it is not half a mile distant by water, over which there is a ferry established. This village was greatly improved in the early part of the last century, by S. Trefusis, Esq. who constructed the quays, and erected several buildings. It is much frequented by invalids, on account of the salubrity of the atmosphere, and is also a place of considerable resort in the summer season, as a watering place. It contains meeting-houses for Methodists and Baptists, and has a Baptist Sunday-school, consisting of about 160 children, lately established and supported by voluntary contributions.—Its name is supposed to have been derived from some Dutchmen who formerly frequented Falmouth.

Carclew, which is a neat building of the Ionic order, faced with granite and having a regular portico, is the seat of Sir William Lemon, bart.* it is situated on an eminence

* William Lemon, Esq. grandfather to the present Sir William Lemon, married Isabella Vibert of Gulval, in 1724, with whom he received a fortune sufficient to enable him to pursue his favourite speculations in mines; and so happily were they directed, that he shortly had the power of turning his whole attention to that object. He was the first who conceived the project of working the mines upon the grand scale on which they are at present carried on; and the success attending it, aided by the discovery of fire engines, caused him to enter largely into that commerce, (now divided amongst many,) which became necessary for the supply of materials for so extended an undertaking.—He carried on his trade at Hayle, and at Truro; to which latter place he removed. His thorough knowledge in mining procured him a grant from Frederick Prince of Wales for thirty years of all minerals except tin in the dutchy lands in Cornwall; where he made valuable discoveries. But his memorial produced to Sir R. Walpole, proving the policy of taking off the duty upon coals, was in its result most beneficial to himself and his countrymen. It was an admirable paper, stating in the clearest terms the advantages that must accrue to the trade from the discharge of that debenture. And it discovered such a mastery of the subject, as drew from the minister the most flattering compliments. In the last convocation of tanners, Mr. Lemon was one of the stannators; and in the regulation of the stannaries, his suggestions were, of course, of prime importance. In the framing of the militia act, government was indebted to him for several useful hints. There were few, in short, possessed talents equal to his own, and none who exerted them more to the advantage of his country. He served the office of sheriff, in 1742. With all this strength of mind, and all this commercial knowledge, he was conscious of deficiencies, and (what is rare in affluence) he owned and lamented them, though not with unavailing regret, but used every effort to supply them. He purchased Carclew in the year 1749. Mr. Lemon is the founder of one of the first families in Cornwall, he died at Truro, 25th March, 1760, in the 63rd year of his age, and is buried there with the rest of the family. The following trivial anecdote is a proof of his liberal way of thinking and his generous feeling:—Mr. Lemon was much attached to a Cornish chough. The favourite chough used at all times to obey his call. If he were walking on Truro-green, or through the streets, the chough mixing occasionally with other birds, or perched alone upon the house-top, would fly to him instantly at his whistle. This bird, therefore, was

rising from the valley through which the Carnon stream-works were conducted. This seat has been highly improved by the present possessor, and forms, with the grounds of Mr. Fox, above Perran-Wharf, a beautiful and interesting contrast to the dreary and uncultivated mining country adjacent.

Trefusis,* from time immemorial has been the seat of the ancient family of that name, it now belongs to Lord Clinton,

regarded at Truro with almost as much veneration as a stork at Athens. It happened, however, that Mr. Thomas, (our late vicewarden,) then a schoolboy at Conon's, taking up his gun, contrary to the rules of the school; and proceeding to the back-quay where he had observed some birds, shot among them, and unluckily killed the sacred chough. His situation was indescribable. He was told by the by-standers that he would certainly be hanged. He had incurred the danger of a flogging for shooting, and of Mr. Lemon's displeasure for shooting his chough. But amidst despair, he at once took courage, went to Mr. Lemon's house, knocked at the door, was introduced to Mr. Lemon, and trembling and in tears, confessed the fact. Mr. Lemon paused a moment, and then said he was sorry for the poor bird—but freely forgave the little delinquent for so much candour in acknowledging his fault, and more than that, promised to keep it a profound secret, or, if it should come to Conon's ears, to intercede for him. Kenwyn parishioners had to thank Mr. Lemon for their musical bells, at whose expence they were chiefly erected, and who, (with the Rev. Samuel Walker and other gentlemen of Truro,) used often to pass their evenings in the manly exercise of ringing.

Polwhele.

* At the commencement of the war, Trefusis was the residence of Captain Pellew, (now Viscount Exmouth.) In the engagement between *La Nymphé*, commanded by the immortal Pellew, and the French frigate *Cleopatra*, the crew of the former was principally composed of Cornishmen, and many of them fell, gloriously fighting in that desperate conflict. The issue of this naval encounter, which was the first that occurred during the revolutionary war, was well calculated to check the national vanity and enthusiasm of the French, which had inspired them with the belief that victory at sea would be as easily achieved as it had been on the land. The battle was certainly most obstinately contested by the French, and Captain Pellew, in his official account of the action, observes, "they fought like brave men." Nothing, however, could withstand the band of Cornish heroes, who had thus the glory in that war, of

who, as lieutenant-colonel of the 41st regiment of foot, and as an aid-de-camp to the duke of Wellington, accompanied his noble leader through the whole of those celebrated campaigns, which have rivetted the attention, secured the applause, and effected the salvation of Europe. His Lordship had several times the envied distinction of being selected by his Grace, to bear to England the official account of the glorious successes of the British troops.

It is intended to make a turnpike road from Flushing through this parish, in order to join the Truro road.—The act of parliament not being obtained, the work is suspended.

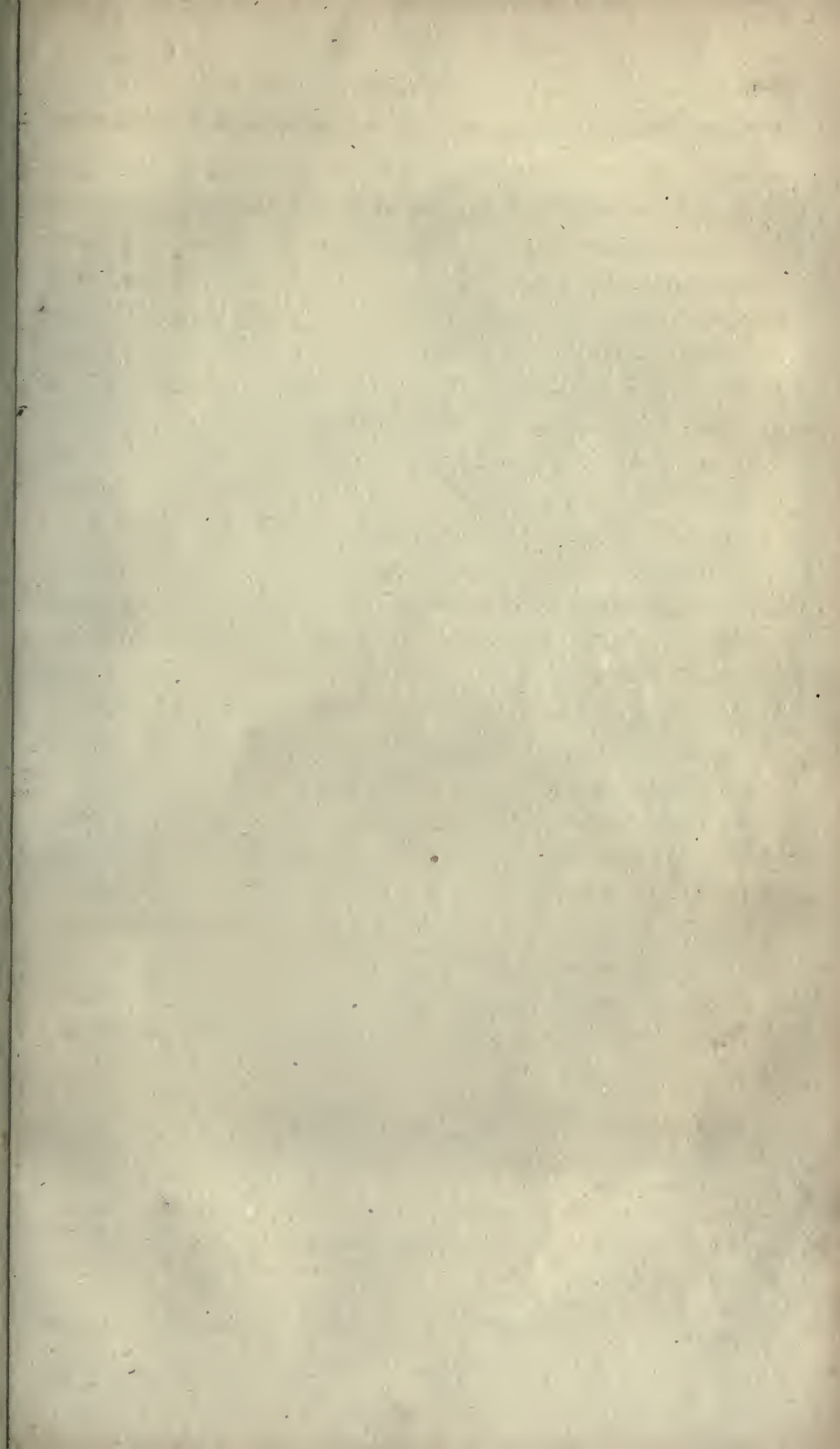
At Perran-Wharf there is an iron-foundry, where Messrs. Foxes and Sons, merchants, carry on a very extensive general trade, both foreign and domestic. Iron and brass for engine work are cast at this foundry. The whole village has been very much improved by their works, and the newly built dwellings for their agents, labourers, and others, make it a delightful and pleasing view.

At Little Falmouth there is a spacious and very convenient dry dock building, which will be a great acquisition to Falmouth Harbour.

Carnon stream-works, (a part of which is in this parish,) are fully described under the head Feock.

Wheal Lemon, a mine on the south side of Carclew, derives its name from the venerable owner of that mansion, on whose land it is situated. After wasting some thousands

fighting the first battle, and of gaining the first victory on the ocean. It dispelled the charm of naval invincibility which Frenchmen had fondly raised; but England, in the hour of triumph, had to mourn the loss of no inconsiderable number of her Cornish defenders. Honour attended their memories. His lordship also commanded the expedition in 1816 against Algiers, when, in consequence of his memorable achievement, he was dignified with the title of viscount.

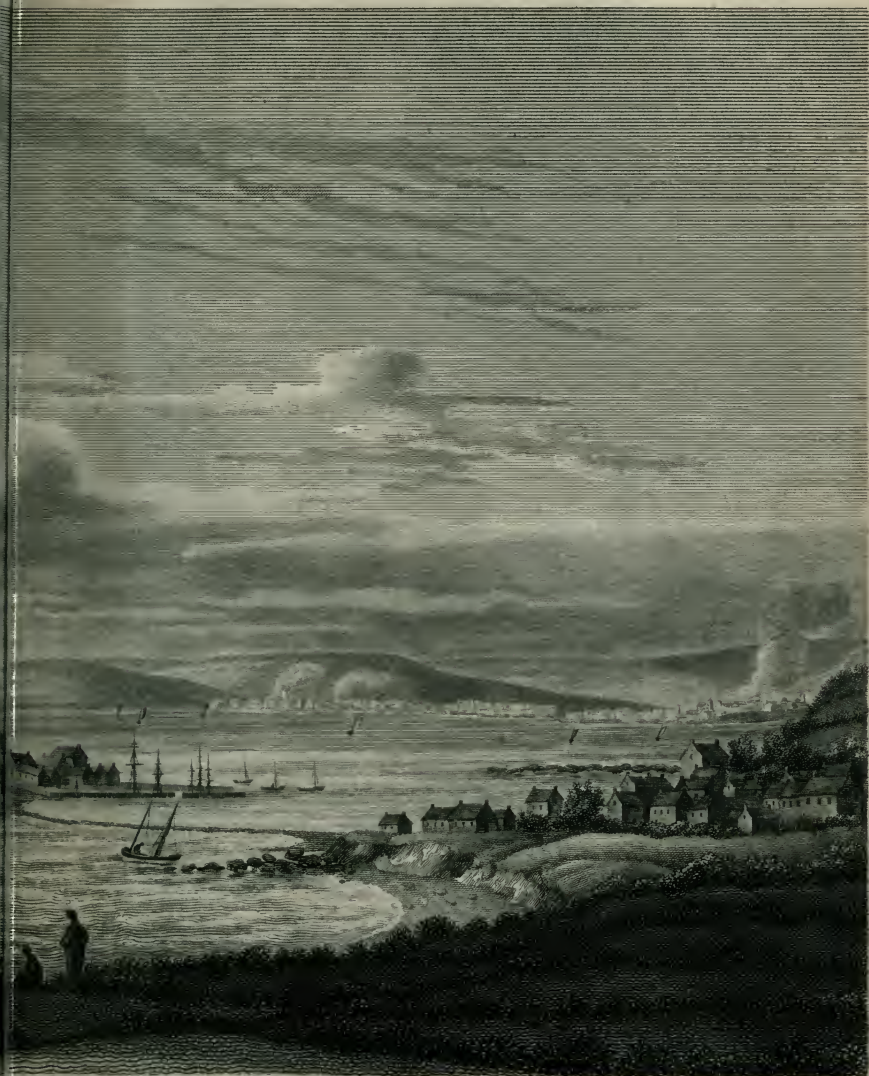




Engraved by J. Shury.

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EAST VIEW OF S
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Luna. September 1815.

(From a Sketch by M.P. Moyle.)

MICHAEL'S MOUNT.

By John St Aubyn Esq.

his Obedient humble Servant,

W. Penaluna

✓ Newlyn.
✓ Penzance.

of pounds in this concern, in searching for hidden treasure, none having been discovered, the adventurers deemed it prudent to discontinue their labours.

At Restronguet Passage, in this parish, the timber and coal trade is carried on.—About thirty years since a melancholy accident happened here by the passage boat sinking, from one of the horses being resty which was in the boat, when Miss Pellew of Penryn, a traveller, and some others were drowned.

From the very pleasant situation of this parish, it abounds with neat and respectable cottages, many of which are fitted up as genteel lodgings.

Milor contains 3463 acres, 369 houses, and 1897 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT.

This sublime spectacle of St. Michael's Mount is within the range of St. Hilary parish.

St. Michael's Mount is one of those rare and singular objects which impress the mind with sensations of veneration, pleasure, and astonishment, the instant they are seen. Its situation is about thirteen miles from the most western land in England, in the inmost recess of a large bay which takes its name from this celebrated rock. This mountain, which is surrounded with the sea six hours out of twelve, is about 400 yards from the shores of Marazion. At its base it is upwards of a mile in circumference; and from the sand which lies around it, to the summit of a tower which crowns its apex, the height is about 250 feet. At high water it appears, from its being insulated, and from that vast expanse of horizon which is seen in every direction, to be consider-

ably diminished in its circumference; but even this variation adds much to the beauty and enchantment of the scene; and it then seems to be a mass of natural rocks and acclivities, partly clothed with verdure, and terminating in a point that is crowned with the triumphs of art. At low water it may be easily approached over a kind of causeway formed of pebbles and shingle, and raised a little above the common bed of sand across which it stretches.

On reaching the Mount, it assumes its real magnitude; and many of its rocks appear gigantic and terrible, from their extraordinary elevation. The general stratum consists of a hard granite, in which transparent quartz is the predominant substance. Viewed from various directions, its appearance presents a diversity of aspects; in some places its ascent being nearly perpendicular, and in others of an easy and gentle acclivity. But although in themselves these rocks are completely craggy and barren, yet they furnish interstices and occasional plains, in which verdure is produced, sufficient to support about twenty sheep and a vast number of rabbits, which from time immemorial have found a residence on the Mount. Of late years some plantations of fir have been introduced, which still tend to heighten the beauty of the scene, as they wave their branches over the gloomy rocks which they shade. Even a distant view of St. Michael's Mount excites ideas of solemn grandeur; but the effect is considerably heightened when the spectator gradually ascends its craggy sides, and slowly winds his way to the summit, among pendant rocks and awful precipices, from which he looks down on diminishing objects below, and catches the fire of enthusiasm, from a collection of departed ages, and from the vast expanse of sea and land that becomes instantly exposed to his view. This celebrated Mount has at different times been distinguished by various

names. Of its ancient Cornish appellation, signifying its being formerly a "hoar rock in the midst of woods." In the book of Landaff it is called *Dinsul*, a word which signifies a hill dedicated to the sun; or, if it is a contraction of *Dinas-whal*, it signifies a hill difficult of ascent. In the beginning of the sixth century, if not long before, it was called St. Michael's Mount; afterwards by the Saxons it was denominated *Mychelstow*; and according to Scawen, *St. Michael de magno Monte*.

"St. Michael's Mount, we are informed by Worcester himself, was originally enclosed with a very thick wood, distant from the ocean six miles. The Cornish name of it *Carreg Lùg en Kùg*. Worcester is the oldest writer who gives the signification of it; he informing us, that the Mount was formerly denominated *Le Hore Rok in the Wodd*."

When this hill was first dedicated to religious worship, can hardly be ascertained with certainty. There can be little doubt that it was very early; perhaps as soon as Christianity first gained a footing in Cornwall. At that early period such hills and romantic situations were deemed congenial to sanctity, and quickly attracted the notice of such as wished to live retired from the world. Hence, hermits and pilgrims of both sexes, renouncing the delicacies of life, retired among rocks, and took up their abode on hills difficult of access, where they became admired for their austerities, and honoured by novices and probationers, who were ardent to succeed them in the same holy enterprises; especially as their habitations were dignified with miracles, which credulity was ever willing to allow, and ready to believe.

Nor were these hills without occasional visits from the inhabitants of the celestial regions. Among the rest,

Michael the archangel was presumed to be particularly fond of perching among the rocks, and rendering himself visible to the credulous monks, who were ever ready to substitute imagination for fact. The monks who first inhabited the Cornish Mount laid claim to this angelic vision, and even pretended to shew the spot on which the angel sat, on an awful pile of rocks, that seemed most difficult of access, and which thenceforth obtained the honourable name of St. Michael's Chair.* It was from the circumstance of this supposed angelic visit, that the ancient Cornish name of this Mount, which designated its situation, was abandoned, and that St. Michael became substituted in its stead. Even the chair has been preserved in the memorials of tradition; and in the building erected on the summit of the hill, a projecting stone extends from the tower, over a horrid mass of rocks below. This stone is still viewed by credulity and ignorance, either as the actual chair in which the archangel sat, or as a substitute, to which either the angel or the stone has communicated all the original virtues of the former. To this stone the fool-hardy and presumptuous still occasionally repair, from a full persuasion, that if they succeed in sitting on it, they shall secure matrimonial dominion for life.

The earliest transactions of a military nature that are recorded of this Mount, took place while Richard I. was engaged in the holy wars. It was then seized by Henry de la Pomeroy, who fortified the place in behalf of Richard's brother John, who was then contending for the crown of

* In this chair, if a married woman has sufficient resolution to place herself in it, by a magic virtue which it possesses, it will invest her with the regalia of "Petticoat Government." If a married man sit in it, he will receive ample powers for the management of his wife and the government of his house.

England. But on the release of Richard, Pomeroy so dreaded his vengeance, that he caused himself to be bled to death; after which the Mount surrendered to the Archbishop of Canterbury. From this time forward this place continued rather a school of Mars, than a temple of peace; for shortly after the overthrow of the party of Henry VI. at Barnet Field, John Earl of Oxford, who was one of the principals, reached this place by sea; and, with his followers, procured admission, disguised in the habits of pilgrims. But having gained an entrance, he threw off the vizard which he wore, mastered the garrison, seized the place, and having fully fortified himself, secured by his valour what he had won by his policy, until some advantageous terms induced him to surrender. In one of these attacks Sir John Arundell was slain between Marazion and the Mount. In the reign of Henry VII. Lady Catherine Gordon, wife of Perkin Warbeck, took refuge here until the disasters of her husband obliged her to submit to Lord Daubeney. During the Cornish rebellion in the reign of Edward VI. many families fled to the Mount, and there endeavoured to secure themselves from the vicissitudes which then distracted the country. But the Mount being besieged by the returning rebels, who took the plain at the bottom of the rock by assault at low water, they proceeded towards the summit, rolling before them trusses of hay to deaden the shot that were poured from the fortifications. Being reduced through want of provisions, they soon surrendered to the insurgents. During the civil war the Mount was secured and strongly fortified by the king's adherents; but they were reduced after an obstinate conflict, by the troops under Colonel Hammond. These commotions drove the peaceable inhabitants from its shores; so that for some time the Mount became nearly depopulated.

Sir John St. Aubyn, the father of the present Sir John, made many improvements on this rock, to whom the increase of buildings and inhabitants is to be attributed, who by rendering the pier sufficiently capacious to contain upwards of fifty small vessels, and to afford security to them and to the fishing-boats, has induced the inhabitants of Marazion to erect cellars near the spot. The number of residences has since been augmented to upwards of seventy, which forms a small town composed of three short streets; and the inhabitants about 250; although at the commencement of the last century there was only one dwelling-house, besides the fortress in the place.

The ascent to the summit of the Mount at present is by a steep and rugged passage fronting to the north, which about midway (in war time) is defended by a few cannon; and near the summit is the principal battery which protects the entrance of the bay. The apex of the rock is occupied by the remains of the ancient monastic buildings, which were considerably altered by the late proprietor, and have been much improved by the present possessor. The chapel, which is still unfinished, is of the Gothic order; from which, by a narrow staircase the tower is to be ascended. A spacious apartment near the chapel, now called the Chevy Chace Room, was formerly the refectory of the monastery. This is curiously ornamented with a very singular frieze, representing in stucco the various modes of hunting the wild bull, stag, ostrich, fox, hare, and rabbit. At the upper end of this room are the royal arms, with the date of 1644, and at the opposite end the arms of the St. Aubyn family. Formerly water was scarce here; for whatever virtue might be attributed to the magic wand of Cadoc in the fifth century, it is certain that the inhabitants had no other water than that which the clouds supplied. But about fifty years

since, a well being cut through a very hard rock, a fine spring was found at the depth of about thirty-seven feet, in the immediate vicinity of a tin-lode. Tin ore is said to be plentiful all over the Mount. Human bones have frequently been dug up in various places on this consecrated spot, wherever the soil was found deep enough for interment.

In levelling a very high platform some years since, in order to erect the altar, a low Gothic doorway was discovered, closed up with stone in the southern wall, which had been concealed by the raised platform. The doorway being opened, a passage was found to descend, containing ten steps, which led to a vault of stone under the church, about nine feet long, six or seven broad, and nearly as many high. In this vault was found the skeleton of a very large man, without any remains of a coffin. The discovery gave rise to various conjectures. But the more rational concluded, that these were the remains of some wretched man, who for some crime had been condemned to die by hunger in this dungeon, and that he had literally undergone the penalty of his sentence. Great must have been that crime, or barbarous those days, that could have given to death so many horrors. The bones of the unhappy victim were taken up from their dark abode, in which they had been immured for unknown ages, and interred within the body of the church.

On the 1st of November 1755, (being the day of the great earthquake at Lisbon) about two o'clock in the afternoon, a most extraordinary phenomenon was observed at St. Michael's Mount, during a dead calm. After the sea had ebbed about half an hour, it rose suddenly six feet in height, retired again in about ten minutes, and this periodical flux and reflux continued every ten minutes for two

hours and half, which caused the vessels and boats, that lay at the pier-head to whirl about in a strange manner.

In June 1814, a dinner was given to ninety-three persons, at St. Michael's Mount, and Mr. Robert James aged 93 presided at the table.

The remains of several ancient fortifications are to be found on the road leading to the castle; and to the mineralogist, the antiquary, the historian, the poet, and the painter, St. Michael's Mount will ever be an object of particular interest, and real satisfaction.

St. Michael's Mount is about three miles from Penzance, and a quarter of a mile from Marazion; it contains about seven acres of land.



MORVAH.

This parish is about seven miles west-south-west of St. Ives, and six north-west of Penzance.

Morvah, although a separate parish, is a daughter church of Madern, and is included in the same presentation.

In this parish is a cromleh, consisting of four upright stones, with a fifth covering the whole, though only resting on three. The incumbent stone or quoit measures about twelve feet long by eleven wide, and the four uprights form a complete chest, or kistvaen. This monument is called Chun Quoit, and stands on an eminence above the Atlantic ocean, commanding a very extensive view of the Bristol Channel, and Mount's Bay. Chun Castle was a spacious building, some remains of which are still visible; it is situated about 500 feet from the cromleh.

Morvah contains 1060 acres, 57 houses, and 273 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.

MULLION.

This parish is about six miles south of Helston.

The most interesting and extraordinary spot on this coast is Kynans Cove, which is situated about a mile from the Lizard Point. The cove itself, which may be said to form a recess of nature, is composed of huge rocks of considerable height, partly projecting into the sea.

In one part of the cove, the groups of rocks are disposed in so singular a manner as to form a majestic arch at the entrance of a grotto which penetrates a considerable way into the cliff. In another rock is a very deep chasm, into which, at the rising of the tide, the sea rushes with tremendous violence; and if there be the least swell a subterraneous noise accompanies its ingress, resembling the roaring of distant thunder. These phenomena have acquired for this rock the appellation of *The Devil's Bellows*. The descent into this recess is by a narrow path, that is awful if not dangerous, and that becomes proportionably interesting as it leads from the busy haunts of society and the works of human art. The rocks are composed of serpentine, varying internally in their colour, but appearing outwardly of a very dark green, having veins of lighter green, white, and scarlet. In some places the surface feels greasy to the touch, which with other associate properties, indicate that it forms a link between talc and the coarser species of the magnesian class. The scales are rather flexible, and inclined to transparency, "The rocks," says Dr. Maton, "are extremely interesting to the mineralogist, from the opportunities they afford him of observing the gradations and transitions of various substances to each other; for besides those already mentioned, asbestos appears

in small portions, and veins of steatites may be traced in numerous directions. Native copper in a thread-like form, is also found in the fissures of the serpentine." Some parts of the serpentine rocks, are scarcely distinguishable from marble, and would be very ornamental for chimney-pieces, slabs, &c. Among the fragments on the shore, polished by the operation of the waves, there are some of an olive-green, variegated with black, and others red, with waving stripes of purple, from which undulated appearance the stone doubtless derived its name.

The land about Mullion is of the best quality. The church town is small and has nothing to recommend it to the notice of the traveller.

At Mullion Cove, which is about two miles from the church town, there is a pilchard fishery on a large scale, which on its commencement was very successful, but of late years it has been a losing concern.

The soap rock is at *Gew Grez* or *Cres Cove* in the tenement of Kynans. The entrance into the creek or cove is very steep, craggy, and horrid; at the right hand (on descending into the creek) the hills are crested with naked rocks or caverns; the sides have also many but they are small. About halfway down the cove a small current of water traverses it in a serpentine manner, and discharges itself near the lode or principal vein of the steatites. On the right hand as you descend the cove it grows more craggy and much narrower, and a few yards lower, on the same side, lies the main vein or lode of steatites; the various sorts are all blended together in spots, sometimes in greater quantities in one place than another. The soap earth or steatites is described by De Costa: "This is a fine and beautiful clay, of a firm, compact, and regular texture,

considerably weighty and hard, of a smooth and unctuous surface, much more so than any other clays; from whence these clays have obtained the name of Soap Earth.

It does not colour the fingers; but drawn along a board, &c. marks a white line. It does not adhere to the tongue, nor does it melt in the mouth; but when chewed has an unctuous softness, and is quite pure and free from all grittiness; it is not at all diffusible in water. The finest is generally white, sometimes with a yellowish hue, elegantly veined and spotted with different degrees of purple, from the slightest cast of that colour to near black; at other times it is as elegantly veined with red, and sometimes, though rarely, has veins and spots of green; at other times the ground is red or purple, variegated with white; but in all these appearances it so greatly resembles hard soap, that it has from thence more particularly obtained its English name of Soap Earth or Soap Stone, and that of Steatites from the Greek word *Stear*, suet; from its resemblance to the hard fat of animals.

This concern belongs to Messrs. Flight and Barr, of Worcester, who have several persons constantly at work.

Monsieur Reaumur observes that no true porcelain can be made only of clays, but that other necessary substances are needful to hinder their perfect vitrification; and for such substances we must have recourse to the talcy class, the fossils of which class almost evade the force of fire, and of these none can be finer or fitter for the making of porcelain than the steatites of Cornwall.

Trenance, anciently the family seat of the Tonkins.

About twelve years since an old copper mine in this parish called the Ghost, was again put to work under the name of South Wheal Unity; and though some of the most extraordinary mineral productions were found here,

the adventurers could make nothing of it. It is generally supposed the lode is split, or lies deep under a bed of iron-stone too expensive to be cut through with any prospect of gain. One of the productions alluded to, was a specimen of malleable copper weighing upwards of 100 pounds, so pure as to be wrought with a hammer. Some of the most celebrated mineralogists of the present age have declared it to be the largest specimen ever known. It is now in the possession of Mr. Joseph Roberts of Falmouth.

Mullion contains 4663 acres, 109 houses, and 571 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



ST. PAUL.

This parish is situated on the west point of the Mount's Bay, about two miles from Penzance.

Newlyn, a large fishing village in this parish. The pilchard, mackarel, and other fisheries are carried on here and at Mousehole, on a more extensive scale than any other part of Cornwall. The fisherwomen, who supply Penzance and the neighbouring towns with fish, have been long and deservedly celebrated for the delicacy of their complexions and the brilliancy of their jet-black eyes.

Mousehole, also a large fishing village in this parish. Those places are numerous inhabited. The London market, in the early part of the mackarel season, is chiefly supplied from Newlyn and Mousehole, which are sent by the way of Portsmouth. Mousehole was formerly a market-town, and a place of considerable trade. Both villages were burnt by the Spaniards in 1595. At Mousehole was formerly a chapel of ease, which also served as a sea-mark; but it was destroyed by the encroachment of the ocean before

the year 1414. The dried ling of Newlyn and Mousehole are esteemed as a very superior fish.

Mousehole is rendered notable by antiquaries for having been the residence of old Dolly Pentreath, the last woman known to speak the Cornish language. In the year 1773, she was eighty-seven years old, and maintained partly by the parish, and partly by fortune-telling and gabbling Cornish. In the former period of her life she supported herself by selling fish, and was well known in the market of Penzance, where, at twelve years of age, she sold her wares in the Cornish language. It appears from her epitaph in the church-yard, that she lived to the great age of 102. Her epitaph is in both Cornish and English; the latter of which is as follows:

Old Doll Pentreath, one hundred ag'd and two;
Both born and in Paul parish buried too:—
Not in the church, with people great and high,
But in the church-yard doth old Dolly lie.

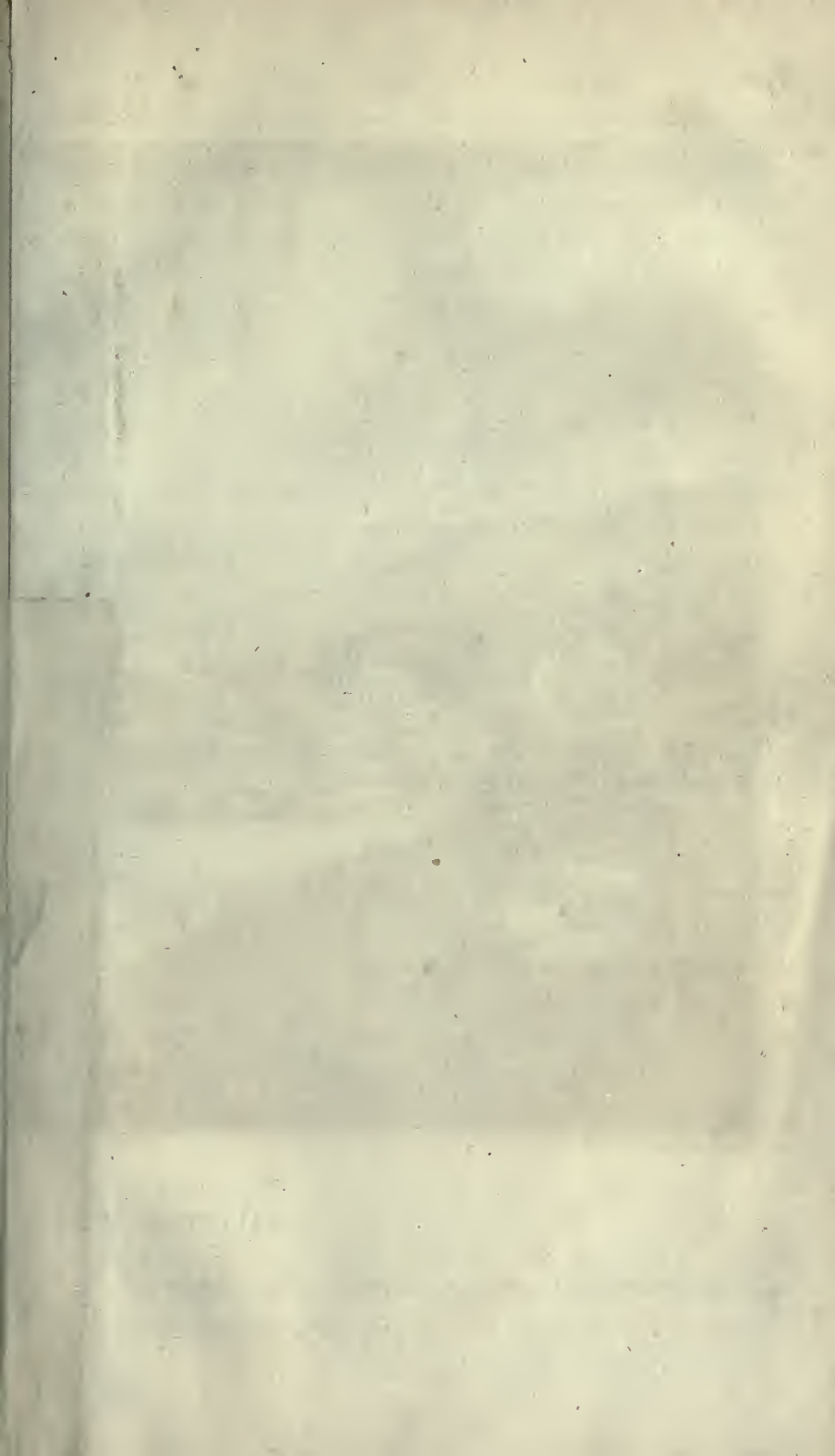
Respecting this church, a curious fact lately occurred. Not long since, the roof of the southern porch was repaired. On removing the slates, &c. a wooden supporter of the roof exhibited marks of the fire which had partially injured it. The carpenter, Bodinnar, aware of the curiosity, preserved the wood thus burnt, which is distributed in pieces among the neighbouring gentlemen. We cannot but remark, how well the circumstance of a single supporter of the roof of the porch being burnt, (and that the one nearest the body of the church) confirms a tradition still current in the west—viz. "That the Spaniards met some females carrying wood and furze, and driving the women into the church, compelled them to let down their burdens near the south porch, the door of which they set open, to receive the blast

of a strong south wind. The direction of the wind consumed the church, but preserved the porch, though when the flame got to its height it might momentarily affect the part of the porch nearest the door. On this subject, let me add, that the thick stone division at the back of Trewarveneth seat (which has puzzled many people) is a part of the old church which escaped the fire. There is a tradition, that a farmer's wife found a Spaniard drunk and asleep in a cornfield, and that she cut his throat with a sickle. Another tradition is, that a farmer cunningly set his furzerick on fire, and ran from it in apparent trepidation; whence the Spaniards thinking that one of the parties had fired the village, passed by without molesting it."

In the church is the following curious notice of its having been burnt. "The Spanger burnt this church in the year 1598."

At Kerris, or Kirthies there is an oval enclosure, about fifty-two paces from north to south, and thirty-four the contrary way, composed of stones, some standing erect, and others piled in a wall-like form, but without mortar. At the south end are four rude pillars (forming an entrance to the area) about eight feet high, and at the foot of them lie some large long stones, which appear to have formerly rested on those pillars. This was probably a place of worship, and the erect stones were designed to distinguish and dignify the entrance. The circle we are describing is at present called the Roundago, which name it may possibly have acquired from the superstitious rounds used in the worship of the Druids.

Stephen Hitchins, Esq. who acquired a considerable fortune by cruising off the Jamaica station, and who died at Jamaica in 1709, bequeathed £600 for the purpose of building and endowing an almshouse in this parish for six poor

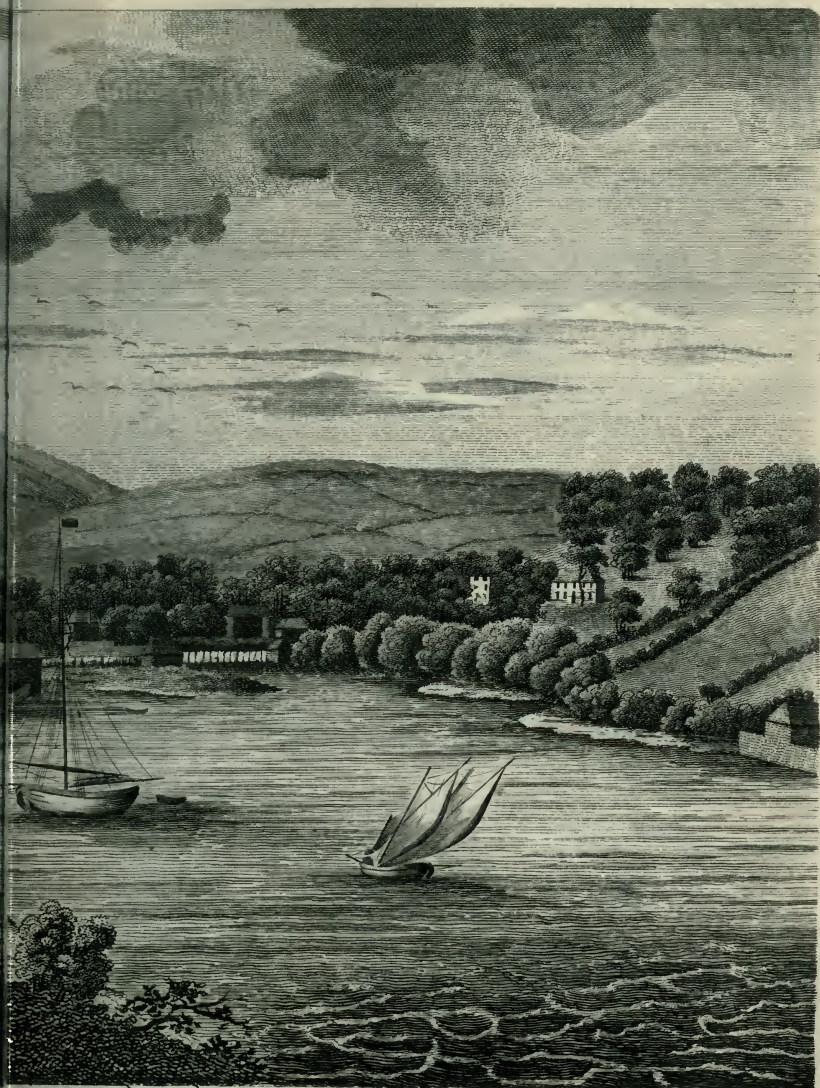




Drawn by T. Ishwin.

Published by W.

SOUTH VIEW
*Dedicated by Permission to the Worshipful the Mayor
By their obedient*



Penryn July 1816.

Engraved by T. Brandford.

OF PENRYN
 & Corporation of the Borough of Penryn.
 W. Penaluna.



men, and the same number of women. The lands then purchased, after defraying the expence of the building, now produce about £70 per annum. The management of this charity is vested in fourteen trustees.

Boskenina, this highly romantic seat, is the property of John Paynter, Esq.

Thomas Johns aged 100, died at Mousehole in 1816.

St. Paul contains 2865 acres, 640 houses, and 3371 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



PENRYN.

Connected with the borough of Penryn, was formerly the wealthy college of Glassney, of which no vestiges at present remain. This college was founded early in the thirteenth century, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Thomas the Martyr. In the year 1500, it appears from the will of Thomas Killigrew, that the church connected with this college was rebuilt, as this gentleman bequeathed one hundred marks towards the erection of this fabric. In the days of Leland, this college was "strongly walled, and had three towers, and guns toward the creek." When the Reformation took place, its revenues being seized, the edifice was suffered to fall into decay. It was entirely demolished in the days of Halse, except one tower, which continued for some time to survive the other parts of the building. But this was pulled down about the beginning of the last century, and a dwelling house was erected on its site.

So early as the 30th of Edward I. Thomas Button, who was then bishop of Exeter, exhibited his claim to certain privileges in his manor of Penryn, which he challenged to be a free borough, and asserted that these rights were en-

joyed by his predecessors, who made it a borough. The rights thus set forth in the petition, and secured by the favourable reply which it obtained, were alienated, together with the manor, by Edward VI.; and Penryn remained destitute of its ancient privileges, until the reign of Mary, by whom they were again restored, with some considerable additions; he also permitted them to send two members to parliament; which right continued during the reign of Elizabeth; but the town was not incorporated until the 18th of James I. 1619; when, at the petition of William Cotton, bishop of Exeter, that king granted them a charter, and legally sanctioned the rights which they had previously exercised without any such authority.

By this charter it was granted, that the government of this free borough should be vested in eleven discreet aldermen or burgesses, a mayor, and twelve common councilmen; and that these should have a recorder, a steward, an office of record every three weeks, a prison, and power to try felons within the precincts of their jurisdiction. James II. granted a new charter to the corporation, which annulled some of the preceding rights, and vested the election of members in the magistrates of the town only; but no particular use was ever made of this charter. At present the right of election is in all the inhabitants who pay scot and lot; the present number are about 300. A serious dispute having recently taken place between some members of the corporation, many privileges of the charter are curtailed.

The town of Penryn, is large and pleasantly situated on the declivity of a hill, from which the prospects are rather diversified than extensive. The market-house and town hall stands almost in the centre of the principal street, from which others diverge at nearly right angles. This principal street is wide, and easy in descent, but the others which

incline towards the church on the one side, and Falmouth on the other, are both narrow and steep, which render them incommodious for carriages. On the western side of the town, the lands are high and rather barren; from these issue several streams of water, which amply supply the inhabitants. One of these streams, flowing with rapidity over some huge masses of stone, forms a singular cascade; and, with its accompaniments of cottages, and wheels driven by it, enlivens the scenery with much picturesque beauty. Its high lands abound with moorstone, vast quantities of which have lately been exported from the quays of Penryn to London. Waterloo Bridge, is chiefly formed of Cornish granite carried from this place. In addition to its domestic trade, there are manufactories for writing and packing papers, soap, pouldavis, woollens, tobacco, snuff, mustard, leather, and parchment. Salt works, and a starch manufactory were also commenced, but the consumption did not warrant a continuance.

The market is held on Saturday; is well supplied with butcher's meat, fish, poultry, and vegetables.

About the year 1769, some public spirited gentlemen established a woollen manufactory at Penryn, which afforded employment to upwards of 600 persons.

The borough of Penryn, though not considered as a distinct parish, is in some respects placed under a separate jurisdiction from that of Gluvias. Its boundaries extend about half a mile north of the town. It has a separate poor rate, and two churchwardens; one nominated by the vicar of Gluvias, and the other by the mayor of the borough. Penryn pays two thirds of the church rate, and Gluvias one.

A large silver cup, belongs to this town, which was given to the corporation by Lady Jane Killigrew, bearing the following inscription:—"From maior to maior for the

towne of Permarin, (or Penryn) when they received me that was in great misery. J. K. 1633." This cup contains about three quarts. This lady's trouble or great misery, originated in her own base conduct, which is thus related by Hals:—Towards the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth, when this country was engaged in a war with Spain, two Dutch ships belonging to the Hanse Towns, which were always free traders in times of war, were driven into Falmouth Harbour by contrary winds. They were laden with merchandise, belonging (it was thought) to the Spaniards. To secure some part of this valuable booty, this lady, attended by a party of ruffians, went on board, and murdering the two Spanish factors or merchants, seized two hogsheads of Spanish pieces of eight, and carrying them on shore, converted them to her own use. For this offence her accomplices were taken into custody, committed, tried, found guilty, and executed. Her ladyship, however, found means to evade the sentence of the law, through the interest which she was enabled to make; and she escaped amidst the execrations of the unhappy wretches, whom her artifices had seduced and brought to the gallows. This lady was divorced from her husband, and died in the year 1648.

Besides the ancient college, it appears from Leland, that there was formerly a chapel in this town, appropriated to religious worship, but of this very little is now known. There are at present meeting-houses for the Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. The mayor of this borough is coroner for the time being.

Penryn which was a garrison of Charles during the civil war, surrendered to Fairfax, in March 1646.

Christmas amusements have been continued at Penryn, from time immemorial, it is scarcely necessary to take notice of the Christmas plays, since the practice of these dramatic

exhibitions is almost wholly confined to children, or very young persons. The lads who engage in these theatrical representations, appear fantastically dressed, decorated with ribbons and painted paper, wooden and other swords, and all the equipage necessary to support the several characters they assume. To entertain their auditors, they learn to repeat a barbarous jargon in the form of a drama, which has been handed down from distant generations. War and love are the general topics; and St. George and the Dragon are always the most predominant characters. Interlude, expostulation, debate, battle, and death, are sure to find a place among this mimicry; but a physician who is always at hand, immediately restores the dead to life. It is generally understood, that these Christmas plays derived their origin from the ancient crusades; and hence the feats of chivalry, and the romantic extravagance of knight-errantry, that are still preserved in all the varied pretensions and exploits. In many other places in Cornwall these Christmas plays are still kept alive.

In the year 1565, it is said that a company of strolling players late at night, happened to be representing a battle on the stage, and suddenly struck up a clamour with their drums and trumpets, just as a party of Spaniards, which had privately landed the same night, was marching to attack the town, but hearing this alarm, they precipitately retired to their boats, after firing a few shot, by way of bravado, "as if an old Tilbury camp had lain in ambush." The townsmen were thus delivered from an impending danger, without incurring any risk against the enemy.

On the third of January, 1809, a peculiarly large basking shark was taken at Penryn, which proved on admeasurement, to be thirty-one feet long, nineteen feet in circumference, eight feet and half in height, or breadth, and five feet

and half wide at its mouth, and weighed, according to a computation, about seven tons. This extraordinary fish was observed about day-break, by some persons from the quay, in the act of steering towards the town. Intelligence of the event being communicated, three boats were manned and dispatched, under the directions of captain Dunn, and succeeded in effecting their object. The skin of this fish was carried about as a public exhibition.

In the year 1757, John Effingham died at Penryn, at the advanced age of 144. Also a few years since Mrs. Phillips aged nearly 102.

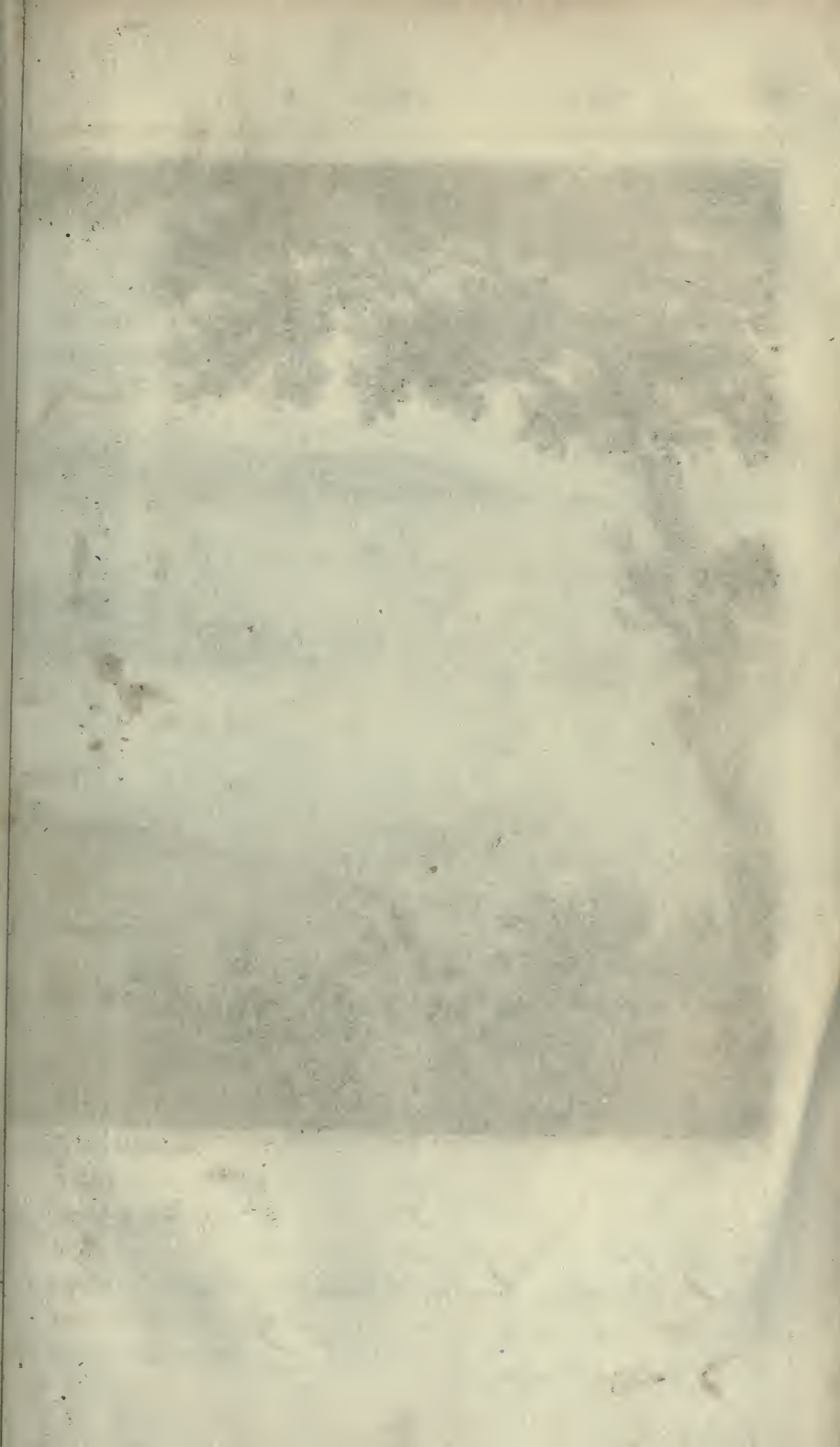
Penryn contains 360 houses, and 2713 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.—It is situated 2 miles from Falmouth, 9 from Truro, 10 from Helston, 8 from Redruth, 52 from Plymouth, 90 from Exeter, and 263 from London.



PENZANCE.

This is a corporate and market town, is the most westerly one in the kingdom, being only eleven miles from the Land's End.

The town is pleasantly situated on the north-west side of Mount's Bay, and from the temperature of the atmosphere, the mildness of the seasons, the beauty of the prospect, and the exhilarating purity of the gentle breezes which play upon the bosom of the waters, and scatter health upon the shores, have conferred on Penzance and its vicinity, a degree of celebrity, which few persons who have visited this neighbourhood, will think injudiciously bestowed. To this place many valetudinarians annually resort, and the benefits they receive, leave them in general but little reason to regret their journeys. It is not without sufficient reason that





Published by W. F.

PENZANCE
*To the Inhabitants of Penzance
By their order*



W. Penaluna May. 1817.

ANCE

ance. This Plate is Inscribed
to my friend and Servant. W. Penaluna.

Penzance has been denominated the Montpelier of England. Its ancient name was Buriton. Its present appellation signifies, in Cornish, *the Holy Headland*. It is one of the stannary, or coining towns, and consists of four chief streets, intersecting each other at right angles, the principal one having the road from Marazion to the Land's End passing through it. A large range of elegant houses on its western side denominated *The Parade*, is only exceeded in number and symmetry by Dunstanville Terrace, at Falmouth, and in the vicinity of the town are several pleasant walks through shady dingles, and over swelling hills, which open to the view the numerous genteel residences that decorate the adjacent country.

The trade of Penzance consists chiefly in coals, groceries, cloth, and other articles of merchandise that are imported, and in tin, copper, and fish, that are exported. It was made a fifth coinage town for tin soon after the restoration. The pilchard fishery is carried on in this town and neighbourhood to a great extent.

At Penzance there are extensive woollen manufactories, also a paper mill, and coarse earthenware potteries.

Tin is formed into bars for the Mediterranean trade, and ingots for the East Indies, at Penzance.

The Market-days are Thursdays and Saturdays, and the market, for the goodness, variety, and cheapness of its commodities is not equalled by any in great Britain. It has fish and wild fowl in abundance.

The great variety of shipping, ships of war, merchantmen, and fishing boats, constantly lying in Mount's Bay, forms a very interesting scene.

This town originally rose from a few fishermen settling near the present quay, and building for themselves a chapel dedicated to St. Anthony, that universal patron of fishermen.

This chapel continued until within these few years, when it was rebuilt into a fish-cellar. It was only small however, but it had a statute of its saint in a niche. Tradition has preserved the name of the saint, and antiquarianism has saved the statute of him. It is merely a bust made of alabaster. Thus begun, the town extended up the side of the hill, from the site of the pier to the ground now occupied by the church. When it had acquired some degree of importance, a fort was built by one of the family of Tyes, in whose manor of Alwarton the town now stands.

The present chapel, which is ornamented with a small whitewashed spire, is dedicated to St. Mary. This has been used as a chapel from time immemorial. It was enlarged in 1671, and consecrated in 1680. The font bears date 1668, the alms-box 1612; and a memorial in a pew is dated 1574. In 1680 it was endowed by John Tremenheere, Esq. with lands now let at £20 per annum; and a cemetery was also enclosed and consecrated, and the limits of the town were defined to be the limits of the chapelry. The endowment has since been twice augmented by queen Anne's bounty. Marriages were solemnized in this chapel prior to the marriage act; but since that has passed, Madern church claims this exclusive privilege. Penzance has its own vestry, and maintains its own poor. It appears from the registers of the see of Exeter, that there were chapels here dedicated to St. Raphael and St. Gabriel. Penzance was first incorporated in 1614; which charter was confirmed by Charles II. The corporation consists of a mayor, eight aldermen, twelve assistants, and a recorder.

Nothing can be more evident, than that the prophetic tales which imposition invents, which ignorance propagates, and which credulity believes, are sometimes productive of calamitous effects and consequences. From time imme-

memorial a prediction had prevailed in the old Cornish language, that a period would arrive when "some strangers should land on the rock of Merlin, who should burn Paul's church, Penzance, and Newlyn." Of the actual accomplishment of this prediction Carew gives the following account:—On the 23d of July, 1595, a small squadron of Spanish gallies presented themselves upon the coast in a menacing attitude, near Mousehole, where they landed about 200 men, and began their devastations, by setting fire to some scattering houses, the church of Paul and then Mousehole itself. Finding little or no resistance, they proceeded to Newlyn, and from thence to Penzance. Sir Francis Godolphin endeavoured to inspire the inhabitants with courage to repel these assailants; but they were so fascinated with the ancient prophecy, that they fled in all directions; supposing that it was useless to contend with the destiny that had been predicted for ages. A few only stood by Sir Francis; but the number was so inconsiderable that he was obliged to abandon the town to the enemy. The Spaniards availing themselves of this desertion, set it on fire in different places, as they had set Newlyn on fire before, and then returned on board their gallies, intending to renew the flames on the ensuing day. But the Cornish having recovered from their panic, and assembled in great numbers on the beach, so annoyed the Spaniards with their bullets and arrows, that they drew their gallies farther off; and availing themselves of a favourable breeze, put to sea and escaped. It is worthy of remark, that when the Spaniards first got on shore, they actually landed on a rock called Merlin. "These," says Camden, "were the only Spaniards that ever landed in England as enemies." This invasion is the only memorable event that occurs in the history of Penzance.

The pier was erected at the expence of the corporation, unassisted by any parliamentary grant, about forty-five years ago. Within the last four years it has received considerable improvements; whether from jealousy of what might be the effect on the trade in Mount's Bay in consequence of the new harbour building at Porthleven, or from a conviction of the absolute necessity for extending protection to vessels taking shelter therein, is not generally known. But whatever might be the motive, they both afford to the coasting trade several important advantages. The pier head has been lengthened 150 feet, on which a light is erected, and used at night from half flood to half ebb, and the dangerous rocks in the entrance removed. The expences incurred by these improvements are to be paid by a new tariff established by an act passed in the year 1817. The pier is now more than 600 feet long.

About a mile from this pier lies a dangerous rock called the Gear, which is not visible after half flood tide. Upon this rock has lately been erected a pole, which will be a good mark by day for vessels entering the harbour.

Penzance was protected during the war by a small fort. But the town is too deeply embayed to tempt even a privateer to risk paying it a visit, lest the wind shifting, should prevent her retreat.

A packet sails every Friday and returns the Tuesday from hence to the Scilly Islands, a distance of about fourteen leagues, which with a fair wind is generally accomplished in about six hours.

The shores of Penzance presented, some few years since, an object of bold adventure to the undertakers, and of dreadful curiosity to the numerous visitors who ventured to inspect it, in the Wherry Mine. Its situation was within the reach of the tide; and the ground, though uncovered

at low water, was inundated with several feet twice in twenty-four hours. "Imagine," says Dr. Maton, "the descent into the mine through the sea; the miners working at the depth of seventeen fathoms below the waves; the rod of the steam-engine extending from the shore to the shaft, a distance of nearly 120 fathoms; and a great number of men momentarily menaced with an inundation of the sea, which continually drains through the roof of the mine, and roars loud enough to be distinctly heard in it." The adventurers in this mine were induced to sink a shaft in this place, through the representations of an old miner, who predicted the acquisition of much riches, which were actually found. It consisted in valuable tin stuff and cobalt. But after some time, the dangerous situation of the shaft, the injuries occasioned by storms and high tides, and the declining state of the lode, induced the adventurers to abandon the workings altogether, in 1798.

Deeply embayed as Penzance is, instances have occurred, when the wind and waves acting in conjunction, overcome every obstacle, and bid defiance to resistance. An awful instance of this fact occurred on the night of Sunday, January 19th, 1817. The storm during the night, increasing to a hurricane, drove the waves with such violence, as to break over the pier above the mast heads of the vessels within, and to bear down every thing before their united fury. One vessel was sunk in the pier, another sunk and went to pieces, a third filled with water, and a fourth drove from her moorings and went on shore. Two of the four pillars on which it was intended to erect a light, were washed down, and several of the foundation stones of the pier were removed. It being a spring tide the water rose to an unusual height; the green between Penzance and Newlyn was torn up, and the soil in several places washed away.

The dry dock at Penzance was much injured ; and, with timber carried off by the waves, the damage sustained by Mr. Matthews, the proprietor, exceeded £500.

On the eastern side of the town, the space between Penzance and Marazion presented a scene of devastation. In some places the turnpike road was buried with sand, and in others it was broken up by the violence of the waves ; the water making a breach over it, and being in different places from three to five feet deep. At Chyandour the lower parts of the houses were inundated ; part of the bridge was washed away ; and in the cellar of an innkeeper there, a number of casks of beer floated, and some of them were dashed to pieces by being driven against each other. At Newlyn and Mousehole on the west, and at Marazion on the east, the effects of this tempest were dreadfully felt. At this latter place, and at the Mount much damage was done. Some premises were severely injured ; the road between Marazion and the Mount was torn from its foundations ; and stones upwards of a ton weight, though cramped together with massy iron, were severed and removed from their positions. From Plymouth to the Land's End scarcely a cove or port escaped the devastations of this tempest ; and in many places its effects will be transmitted to future generations.

A Geological Society was instituted here, in February 1814, on the suggestion of J. A. Paris, M. D. late of this town. D. Gilbert, Esq. M. P. for Bodmin, is president, and Lord de Dunstanville, patron ; and the society reckons amongst its officers and members many individuals of rank and science. His royal highness the Prince Regent having taken the society under his protection, it is now denominated the Royal Geological Society. The county of Cornwall being particularly favourable to the objects of its institution

the society promises fair to advance science, and produce much practical benefit.

Here is also a respectable Reading Society, as well as some others tending to amusement and instruction.

The Penwith Agricultural Society holds its meetings at Penzance.

Penzance has a grammar-school, supported by the town and corporation; and one of Mr. Buller's schools, endowed from the long annuities, was in this town. It has also a dispensary, maintained by voluntary contributions.

In this town there are meeting-houses for Baptists, Independents, Quakers, and Methodists, also a synagogue for Jews.

In 1811 a blowing-house was erected near Penzance.

In 1779, was born at Penzance, Sir Humphrey Davey, a character that would reflect honour on any age or any county. He was descended from an ancient and respectable family. The earlier part of his education was received under Dr. Cardew, at Truro, which he left in a few years to acquire the profession of a surgeon and apothecary, under a medical gentleman at Penzance. Here his genius for chemistry first displayed itself, in varying the experiments of the most celebrated pneumatic chemists, and adapting them to vegetables, exclusively produced on the sea shore. These were communicated to Dr. Beddoes, who, sensible of Mr. Davey's merit, engaged his assistance at a medical establishment, just then beginning at Bristol. Mr. Davey introduced himself to the attention of the public by a treatise "On the nature and relation of light and heat." The credit justly acquired by this work, and by subsequent essays, added to his successful delivery of a course of lectures at Clifton, procured for him the notice of the Royal Institution in London, where he now holds the situation of

chemical lecturer; and by his lectures and experiments contributes largely to the natural information on subjects before unknown, or imperfectly considered. Some of his discoveries are of the most wonderful nature, and have afforded a greater insight into the mysteries of nature than those of any individual who has preceded him. Mr. Davey has obtained the praise and esteem of all the foreign societies, as well as of his own country, and the National Institute at Paris gave him their prize of 3,000 livres for his paper on chemical affinities. Early in 1812, he received the honour of knighthood from his royal highness the Prince Regent, and he still sedulously employs himself in the prosecution of his lectures, experiments, and discoveries. By his vigorous intellect and scientific talents, Sir Humphrey has not only highly exalted himself in the scale of public reputation, as a chemist, but he has shone also as a poet. His poem, called "Mount's Bay," possesses considerable merit, and pages of it have been frequently quoted, in works descriptive of the scenery in the neighbourhood.

In taking up the stone floor of an old house near Penzance Quay, in October 1813, the workmen discovered a human skeleton, which, apparently, had lain there a considerable time. The premises were anciently occupied as a public house, and some aged people recollected the circumstance of a sailor who was in the habit of frequenting it, and who had in his possession a plenty of money; being suddenly missed, conjectures ran that he was murdered; but no proofs being produced to that effect, the subject and enquiry dropped. This discovery of the skeleton now puts the melancholy reflection beyond a doubt, and the perpetrators of the horrid deed have long since answered for their cruelty before the Supreme Judge of all human actions, whether open or concealed. It is remarkable that this

dwelling had been long unoccupied, from a report of its being haunted.

In July 1757, a monk or angel-fish was taken at Penzance, in a trammel-net, whose nature appeared to be between the dog-fish and the ray. The belly was white, and the back of a dusky or brownish hue.

In no part of Cornwall is Midsummer celebrated with more hilarity than at Penzance and its neighbourhood.*

* On the 23d of June, at Penzance, the young people are all alert in the preparations for their favourite festival. "No sooner does the tardy sun withdraw himself from the horizon, than the young men begin to assemble in several parts of the town, drawing after them trees, and branches of wood and furze; all which had been accumulating week after week, from the beginning of May. Tar-barrels were presently erected on tall poles; some on the quay, others near the market, and one even on a rock in the midst of the sea; pretty female children tript up and down in their best frocks, decorated with garlands, and hailing the Midsommer-eve as the vigil of St. John. The joyful moment arrives! the torches make their appearance! the heaped-up wood is on fire! the tar-barrels send up their intense flame! the ladies and gentlemen parade the streets, or walk in the fields, or on the terrace that commands the bay; thence they behold the fishing-towns, farms, and villas, vying with each other in the number and splendour of their bonfires. The torches quickly moving along the shore, are reflected from the tide; and the spectacle, though of the cheerful kind, participates of the grand. In the mean time rockets and crackers resound through every street; and the screams of the ladies, on their return from the shew, and their precipitate flight into the first passage, shop, or house, that happens to be open, heighten the colouring and and diversion of the night. Then comes the finale; no sooner are torches burnt out, than the inhabitants of the quay-quarter, (a great multitude), male and female, young, middle-aged, and old, virtuous and vicious, sober and drunk, take hands, and forming a long string, run violently through every street, lane, and alley, crying 'An eye! an eye! an eye!' At last they stop suddenly; and an eye to this enormous needle being opened by the last two in the string, (whose clasped hands are elevated and arched) the thread of populace run under and through; and continue to repeat the same, till weariness dissolves their union, and sends them home to bed; which is never till near the

Penzance contains 784 houses, and 4022 inhabitants.—It is 283 miles from London, 109 from Exeter, and 27 from Truro.



PERRAN-ARWORTHAL.

This parish is a daughter church to Stithians and is included in the same presentation, is five miles from Truro and about four from Penryn.

The village of Perran-Well in this parish is very populous, through which is the direct road from Truro to Helston, Penryn and Falmouth. There is a Methodist meeting-house near Perran-Well.

At Perran-Wharf Messrs. Foxes* and sons carry on an extensive trade, superintended by Mr. G. Fox, one of the acting partners; also a large iron and brass foundry, for

hour of midnight.—Next day (Midsummer-day). The custom is, for the country people to come to Penzance in their best clothes, about four or five o'clock in the afternoon; when they repair to the quay and take a short trip on the water. On this occasion numbers of boats are employed, most of which have music on board. After one cargo is dismissed, another is taken in; and till nine or ten o'clock at night, the bay exhibits a pleasant scene of sailing-boats, rowing-boats, sloops, sea-sickness, laughter, quarrelling, drum-beating, horn-blowing. On the shore there is a kind of wake or fair, in which fruit and confectionary are sold, and the public houses are thronged with drinkers and dancers.—Such is Midsummer in this part of Cornwall; and on the eve of the feast of St. Peter, which follows so closely upon it, the same things are acted over again.'

* R. W. Fox, Esq. has now in his possession a wooden shovel, tied round with a decayed string, and a pick made of deer's horn, which were found at a great depth; also Benjamin Tucker, Esq. of Trematon Castle, has a human skull that was discovered, lying on a bed of tin, more than forty feet below the surface of the earth. These were taken up at Carnon stream-work.

manufacturing all sorts of steam-engines and other castings, not unfrequently making from twenty to twenty-eight tons a day; also a large hammer mill, rolling mill, turning lathe, &c. &c. under the management of Mr. Benjamin Sampson, also acting partner.

At the head of this arm of the river running down to the sea, there is a villa belonging to one of the company. No spot in Cornwall has been more improved than this, and hardly any more beautiful. The eminences surrounding the creek to a large extent, are covered with thriving plantations.

An arsenic manufactory, under the direction of Dr. Edwards of Falmouth, is carried on in this parish.

Perran-Arworthal contains 1229 acres, 216 houses, and 1104 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



PERRAN-UTHNOE.*

This parish is situated one mile and quarter from Marazion, and four miles and quarter from Penzance.

Goldsithney, a large and populous village is in this parish, through which the road leading from Penzance to Redruth and Truro passes. An extensive trade in mining materials is carried on here by Messrs. Gundries, who are great and persevering adventurers. A fair is held here on the 5th of August, which is well supplied with all kinds of cattle, &c.

* From Tonkin's MS. it appears that a thousand acres of this parish were lost by a breaking in of the sea, at the same time that the Mount was separated from the land, which extended from the cliff, to a ridge of rocks called the Greab, as far as which the land extended, the water is very shallow, the land on the cliff very level, and the cliff itself low.

Wheal Neptune copper mine is situated near the church in this parish, has been worked for several years with much profit to the adventurers ; at present (July 1818) a new and very rich discovery has been made, and in all probability she will be a lasting and valuable mine.

Perran-Uthnoe contains 924 acres, 125 houses, and 626 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Penwith.



PERRAN-ZABULOE.

The name of this parish is also written Perran in Sabulo, or St. Piran in the Sands. St. Piran was the patron saint of tanners.

The light sand carried up by the northerly winds from the sea shore, is daily making fresh encroachments on the adjacent lands, and has destroyed two churches in this parish, the ruins of one are still to be seen, in which service has been performed about twenty years since. The present edifice stands near the village of Lambourn, whither the pillars and font of the original church were removed.

In this parish "The manor of St. Piran lyeth joyning to the east with Penkaranowe and Reenwartha, between them and the churchlands of St. Piran, from whom it takes its name. This is now wholly destroyed by the sands, but was once the seat of a family of the same name."

There is a remarkable earth-work in this parish, called Perran-Round ; the area is perfectly level, about 130 feet in diameter, with benches of turf, seven in number, rising eight feet from the area.

At Perran-Porth, where a considerable stream falls into the sea, is a fine sandy beach, frequented as a bathing-place by respectable persons of the neighbourhood, some of whom procure lodgings in the adjacent cottages.

The following mines are in this parish :

Wheal Ramoth mine is situated on the east of Perran-Porth, amongst the sand-banks with which that neighbourhood is covered. A few years since a steam-engine was erected here ; but the mine not answering the expectations of the adventurers, was stopped soon after its erection.

Wheal St. George, an extensive undertaking, in which large sums of money have been employed ; but the copper raised being inadequate to defray the cost, the working has been suspended.

Wheal Budnick, under similar circumstances with St. George.

Chiverton, the seat of John Thomas, Esq. late vice-warden of the stannaries, is in this parish.

Perran-Zabuloe contains 9499 acres, 276 houses, and 1527 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Pydar.



PHILLACK,

This parish is united to Gwithian, of which Phillack is the mother church. It is situated four miles and half from St. Ives (but at high water the travelling distance is nine miles), nine miles north-west of Penzance, and the same distance from Redruth, and ten miles north-west of Helston.

The Hayle Copper House Company, who are the proprietors of most of the lands around Phillack Creek, have, at a great expence, opened a kind of navigable canal, through which barges and other vessels reach their extensive works. At the bottom of this canal are flood-gates, to secure the water when the tide retires. About twenty years since a jutty was laid near the mouth of the harbour ; while,

to collect the water within, and to render it subservient to their purposes, a dam was thrown across Phillack Creek. This has rendered the harbour more commodious, and by having a channel laid open through the bar, vessels pursue their course with less danger than formerly. The increase of commerce rarely fails to advance the means of promoting it.

The entrance to Hayle Harbour is nearly choked by a bar of sand having formed at its mouth, over which vessels find a dangerous passage, even at spring tides. And indeed the bed of the whole is so elevated with the sands which have been accumulating for ages, that it admits the tide only when it has been flowing some time before. In common harbours, and on open shores, where nothing obstructs its passage, the tide may be said to flow six hours, and to ebb six hours, thus making the whole twelve. But here the case is otherwise; for the tide must have flowed three hours before it can enter Hayle, and it continues to ebb three hours more after it has withdrawn its waters from the river. It cannot therefore be considered as affording any thing more than a half-tide haven; so that the season for vessels to enter and retire, must be watched with care, and improved with diligence. Within the bar and near Phillack church is safe anchorage for vessels of 150 tons burden.

Notwithstanding this disadvantage, the trade carried on through the medium of this river, is very considerable; chiefly by importing timber, coals, iron, hemp, tar, earthenware, &c. &c. Coal, for which there is such a great demand from steam-engines, smelting-houses, and the home consumption of a populous neighbourhood, that usually there are above five hundred, and often times a thousand horses, daily employed in carrying it off. The exports

from this place has been principally sheet copper,* (which was manufactured at the rolling mills by the help of water wheels,) copper ore, fish, tin, &c.

The smelting and refining of copper, manufacturing copper nails for ships, &c. &c. have been carried on here upon a very extensive scale.

In 1705, Mr. Lydell obtained a patent for smelting tin in iron furnaces, and set up works at Angarack. The use of reverberatory furnaces soon followed, and the blowing-houses grew into disuse.

In this parish is Wheal Alfred, which was one of the richest mines in the county; she has ceased working some time. The monthly expenditure of this mine was about £3,500, which it defrayed, and returned besides a clear profit of £120,000 to the adventurers.

The only copper smelting-house in Cornwall, is at Hayle; where about 600 tons have been smelted annually. This copper-house is built with square masses of scoria, which for the purpose of building, &c. is cast into moulds as soon as it comes out of the furnace.

There is a Methodist chapel at Copper-house also built

* In manufacturing sheet copper.—The copper coming out in sheets from between the polished rollers; the sheets thrown amid reverberating flames; masses of metal assuming the forms of cauldrons, under hammers wrought by water-wheels; the dreadful noise of the machinery; and the dexterity of the emaciated workmen, arrest the imagination. The largest hammer is seven hundred, from its spring it acquires seven hundred more; here the metal placed under it receives a blow of fourteen hundred. The largest rollers are eighteen inches in diameter. More than a power of ten tons is necessary, on their part, to reduce the copper into sheets used for ships. These sheets are packed in boxes, the average value of each is thirty guineas. The sheets immediately on their being taken from the reverberatory furnace, are thrown into a pool of water. The largest shears will cut a bar of copper, two inches in thickness, with the same facility as a milliner cuts a ribbon.

with scoria, in fact the principal part of the houses at Copper-house, are built with square masses of scoria; even the fields at Reviere are divided with slabs.

According to Dr. Borlase, Theodorick, a Cornish king and pagan prince, had established his castle at Reviere, before the year 460, as at that time he is said to have murdered eleven bishops and a numerous train of attendants, who had just landed from Ireland, fearing that they would turn away the attachment of his subjects from the religion of their ancestors. No memorials of this ancient castle are at present visible, the ruins having probably been buried in the sands.

The smoke of the smelting-houses, and the increase of sand near Hayle,* have greatly injured the vegetation of this parish.

Reviere is the seat of John Carne, Esq. who is acting partner and manager of the concern, and who has a splendid cabinet of minerals.

Phillack contains 2575 acres, 370 houses, and 2119 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



REDRUTH PARISH.

The parish church which is dedicated to St. Uny, is near a mile from the town; was rebuilt about the year 1770. It is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave only, with a flat ceiling, supported by pillars.

This parish is in the centre of the mining districts, and its population consists principally of miners, and others connected with the mining business.

* Since the account of St. Erth parish has been printed, Mr. Henry Harvey, of Hayle, has made great improvements, both in erecting commodious wharfs for facilitating the shipping ores, &c. and for carrying on a more extensive trade.

The principal mines in this parish are the following :

Wheal Sparnon, this mine has lately resumed her former workings, and promises fair to make a lasting mine. The swimming stone was first discovered in this mine.

Wheal Pink partly in this parish, has produced tin of the purest kind, which, from the singular disposition of the strata in which it is found, continues to attract the notice of the curious in an eminent degree,—the metal being imbedded in white clay, mixed with sand. The expence of the timber requisite for keeping open the various passages of this mine has much retarded the progress of the adventurers.

Wheal Lilly adjoins Wheal Pink, and is distinguished by the same circumstances with respect to its produce and expence.

Wheal St. Aubyn, on this mine a steam-engine has been erected; but the lode producing only a small quantity of copper, the working has been suspended.

Wheal Cupid is near the before-mentioned mine, a steam-engine was erected on her, some time since, but it is now in a state of inaction; the real state of the mine is not clearly known.

Adjoining to this parish is the lofty and venerable hill of Carnbre which has been generally considered as the grand centre of the superstitious rites of the Druids in this county, which is fully described under the head Illogan.

The point at which Redruth meets the parishes of St. Agnes, Gwennap, and Kenwyn, is also the point where the four hundreds of the county unite. It is a barren, heathy spot, denominated in the Cornish language *Kyvur-an-Kou*, the Place of Death; and here from time immemorial, the remains of the self-murderers belonging to either of the above four parishes, have been deposited.

Within the fence of the plantations of the vicarage, is an

ancient stone, which deserves the attention of the curious.

Redruth contains 3766 acres, 206 houses, and 2266 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



REDRUTH TOWN.

This respectable market town is very populous; lies in a bleak and exposed situation and consists principally of one long street, commencing from the eastward, from a steep eminence. It has nothing remarkable but its antiquity from its ancient name Dre-druth, or the Druid's Town. It is supposed to have existed before the kingdom was divided into parishes, some old writings having this expression, "in the parish of Uny juxta Dre-druth." The town however, derives its whole importance from its central situation with respect to the mines, the working of which has increased the population of Redruth more than six-fold within the course of the last century.

The church which is situated about a mile from the town, is dedicated to St. Uny.

The school-room was built by subscription in 1803, and a salary raised by the same means, for a master, to teach latin, arithmetic, &c.

There is also a Sunday-school for about 200 boys and girls, the teachers of which act gratuitously.

Quakers, Baptists, and Methodists have large and very respectable meeting-houses.

The market-day is Friday, which is abundantly supplied with corn, meat, fish, and every other necessary of life.—This market has much declined within thirty years, owing to markets being established at St. Day, and Camborne.

At the bottom of the street, near the river was a chapel.

“ Here service was performed twice a week within the memory of some living. But now the chapel is unroofed ; and the bells carried to Trefusis ; as it is situated in Mr. Trefusis’s land.”

Mr. Polwhele, says “ that on the most moderate computation, the enormous sum of £8000 was expended in liquor by labourers, in the parish of Redruth in one year only.” In 1805, a society was formed at Redruth for its suppression. “ O that men should put an enemy into their mouths to steal away their brains, that they should, with joy, revel, pleasure, and applause, transform themselves into beasts !”

In 1795, Peter Cox, a miner, was drinking at the Three Compasses, in Redruth, when in a fit of inebriety, blaspheming the evangelists, wishing perdition to all the kings of the earth, and drinking Tom Paine’s health, on a sudden his jaw became locked, and he died on the spot, in the most excruciating torments.

Redruth town contains 664 houses, and 2637 inhabitants.—It is 262 miles from London, 89 from Exeter, 9 from Truro, and 10 from Falmouth.



RUAN MAJOR.

This parish is situated eight miles south-south-east from Helston. There is nothing particular in this parish to recommend it to the antiquary.

The farmers in this neighbourhood have an advantage in common with others, where fishing coves are within their reach, by obtaining their manure, which is produced from broken and decayed pilchards, and the bay-salt which is condemned as unfit for any further use as salt. This when purchased consists of oil, salt, and fragments of broken

pilchards. It is very rich thus saturated with oil, and is sold from ten-pence to fifteen-pence per bushel. These relative species of manure are far superior to any other ; and though apparently expensive when first purchased, both have been found to be more productive, and more durable in their effects, than manure procured in larger quantities for much less money. When carried from the fish-cellars, it is mixed with earth and sand ; the general proportions are about forty or fifty Winchester bushels to 150 or 200 horse-loads of sand and earth. Thrown thus into heaps to incorporate with sand and earth, it soon dissolves, and being turned and mixed together while lying in the heap, the general mass becomes enriched, and the farmer calculates upon a prolific crop, and an advantageous harvest.

Of the extraordinary fertility which the soil thus manured acquires, some idea may be formed from the abundant produce of some prolific parts in the district of Meneage. Mr. Fraser says, “ After a dressing of this kind for barley, on some lands near the Lizard, I have been assured that ninety bushels of barley, Winchester measure, have been produced on an acre, statute measure ; and that it is not uncommon to have from seventy to eighty bushels, seventy-five being considered as a middling crop. Such a surprising fertility may perhaps hardly be credited ; but it is supported by undeniable authority.

Erisey, partly in this parish, gave denomination to the very respectable family of Erisey.

Ruan Major contains 2325 acres, 29 houses, and 167 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Kirrier.

RUAN MINOR.

Ruan Minor is situated about ten miles south-south-east from Helston.

A part of the very interesting and populous cove of Cadgwith is in this parish, which is described under the head Grade.

In this parish is a round, upwards of a quarter of a mile from the church, about 200 yards from Treleage farm, in the road to Helston, which cuts off a part of it. Its diameter, within the mound, is about ninety-three feet. The area is a garden ; and the mound is raised into a hedge.

Ruan Minor contains 621 acres, 73 houses, and 274 inhabitants ; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



SANCRED.

This parish is six miles and half north-north-east from the Land's End, and three miles and half west from Penzance.

In this parish is St. Euny's Well, formerly in great repute for curing disorders. Its waters also, and their various virtues, both real and imaginary are similar to Madern Well ; see under head Madern.

The ruins of an old chapel are contiguous, among which are many stones curiously carved, which strongly indicate that there was a period when this place was in high estimation.

In Boswen's Croft, in this parish, there is an upright stone, which, like many others of a similar nature and description, is denominated Long Stone. This stone is about twelve feet in height, and of a craggy appearance.

But what renders it still more remarkable, its base is surrounded with a heap of stones, thrown promiscuously together, forming a kind of sepulchral barrow, with this pillar rising through its summit. It is not improbable that the ashes of some ancient Briton of considerable distinction were deposited near this spot, and that this pillar and these stones, were brought together to mark the consecrated tomb.

In the tenement called Dryft, there is another monument, which has every mark of being sepulchral. It consists of two stones, one of which is about seven, and the other nine feet above the ground. These stones are about eighteen feet from each other, standing in a line which points to the north-west, and in the opposite direction. The distance of these stones from each other, seems to have been chosen, to give to posterity a figurative idea of greatness, which might be transferred to the character and consequence of the person here interred.

On Bodinar in this parish there are two circles. One of these is nearly fifty-five feet in diameter, by fifty; but the other is no more than eighteen. These circles have the remains of a former communication, in that part where they approximate most nearly to each other. The larger circle is enclosed by two walls, one within another; and these walls are separated by a ditch about four feet wide, but its original depth cannot be easily ascertained. The area within the innermost wall is forty-one feet in diameter from north to south, and thirty-six from east to west. To this circle there are two entrances immediately opposite to each other, besides an opening that communicates with the smaller circle, to which no other passage is left than through the large one. The entrances into this larger circle, are guarded by large stones placed erect on each side of the apertures in the wall; and the same precaution or dignified

respect is paid to the opening which leads from the larger to the smaller circle. The little circle in this monument, Dr. Borlase supposes to be for the prince, and those of the most dignified rank, and the large one for the inferior members of the council.

In this parish was found an urn, and from the lace-work which surrounds it, and the neatness with which it was executed, is supposed to be Roman manufacture.

In the church-yard is a singular stone cross.

Here are also considerable remains of an ancient fortification called Caerbran Castle.

Sancred contains 3997 acres, 169 houses, and 790 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



SENNEN.

This parish is the most westerly one in England, The church is situated about a mile from the Land's End, and eight miles and half west-south-west from Penzance.

Bolerium, or the Land's End, has been a place of considerable fame from the remotest periods of antiquity. It was well known in the early history of Cornwall, and was the first spot that the Phenecians made when they first visited our shores. Hals observes, that in this parish is a large flat stone, on which, if the testimony of tradition can be credited, seven Saxon kings dined at one time, when they came into Cornwall to visit the Land's End. The names of these kings are preserved, and they are said to have flourished about the year 600.

It would be difficult for fancy itself to sketch a more sublime picture of rocky scenery than that which the Land's

End presents. The bold promontory thrusts itself forward in a wedge-like form, as though to bid defiance to the surges of the Atlantic; while it towers above its roaring waves in awful majesty to the height of 250 feet, presenting to the furious element by which it is incessantly assailed, immoveable ribs of granite, that rise on every side in all the forms which variety can be supposed to bestow on such enormous masses. The gloomy colour of these rocks, the wildness of their group, the perpendicularity of their descent, the turbulence of the waves beneath, the screams of sea-birds, and the vast horizon that the eye every where commands, can scarcely fail to excite in the mind an emotion of terrific grandeur, which no language can adequately express.

Another abrupt promontory called Peden-maen-due Point, beset with frowning rocks that forbid all approach to it by sea, shoots out into the ocean in the vicinity, while Cape Cornwall (which is in the parish of St. Just) shelters from the storms and surges that come from the north-east, the capacious excavation of Whitsand Bay. At a considerable distance, when the weather is clear, the celebrated Cassiterides or Scilly Islands, appear in sight, rising in the utmost verge of the distant horizon. To the left another mass of granite called The Armed Knight, distinguishable by the foaming breakers, adds to the magnificent solemnity of the scene; while a range of rocks called The Longships, memorable for many disastrous wrecks, appears in front to contend with the tempestuous waves that flow from the Atlantic.

To prevent a recurrence of these calamities, a lighthouse was erected in the year 1797, on the central rock of the Longships. This has so well answered the end of its erection, that since its construction, only one vessel has been

known to perish upon the ledge ; and this was occasioned by an oversight of the master, who, through an error in his reckoning, mistook the Longships for the Eddystone. Three men belong to this lighthouse, two of whom are continually on the rock, while a third is permitted to live at St. Just, to relieve one of the others every month. By these changes each man spends two months in the lighthouse, and one on the main land ; unless the severity of the weather, by cutting off all communication, interrupts the regularity of these arrangements. This sometimes has been protracted to four months ; during which time they can communicate by no other means than by signals. For this melancholy, this dangerous, but this necessary service, each man is allowed £30 per annum, besides king's provisions.

Some time in the year 1807, the following distressing circumstance took place at the Longships. In calm weather the inhabitants are enabled to diversify their meal by going out on the rocks when the tide retires, and catching fish. One of them having been successful in this employment on a certain day, retired to a projecting precipice to clean his prey. His companion waited for him until dinner time ; but not finding him return, he went to seek him, and found him stretched out a corpse in a chasm below. In this state of bereavement he was obliged to remain in awful solitude, until his signal procured assistance from the neighbouring shore.

It has been said of Empedocles, that he plunged into the crater of Mount Etna, to acquire immortal reputation ; and of Herostratus, that he set fire to the temple of Ephesus for the same reason. The same principle of rash ambition seems to have influenced a modern traveller about ten years since, who anxious to acquire fame, disdained to pur-

sue the common path to glory which had been trodden by vulgar feet. About 200 yards before the land terminates at Land's End, the ground rapidly declines, and the isthmus becomes very narrow ; its greatest width not exceeding fifty yards. Approaching this tremendous spot, below which the waves are about 250 feet, every rider is requested by his guide, as well as by common prudence, to alight, and walk to the awful extremity. But the traveller of whom we speak, scorning the admonitions of both, spurred on a valuable and spirited horse to the tremendous precipice, which common mortals scarcely visit on foot without a degree of dismay. The animal prior to his descent over the narrow isthmus, warned him of his danger, by manifesting strong symptoms of terror and affright. The guide in vain attempted to dissuade him of his wild attempt ; and the horse was with much difficulty pushed forward. Arriving near the point, the mingled roar of the winds and waves, the horrid forms in which the rocks appeared, and the wild scenery which was every where exhibited, so terrified the animal, that he became ungovernable. The gentleman now began to find that he had carried his foolish ambition too far. He therefore attempted to regain the ground he had indiscreetly left ; but on striving to turn the animal round, it snorted, plunged, reared, and seemed insensible to every thing but the impression of dread, which was now fully communicated to its rider. The horse running backward, curvetted to the very brink of the precipice ; when the rider, whose fate depended on the moment, threw himself with desperation on the ground. That very instant the horse plunged down the precipice, and falling on the crags below, was dashed to pieces. The rider was taken up half stupified with terror ; and for a considerable time afterwards, he suffered from the effects of his contemptible vanity.

The road from Penzance to this distinguished promontory is very interesting to the antiquary, being surrounded by Druidical circles, cairns, cromlehs, military entrenchments, and crosses. The land, though wild, and abounding in heath, fern, and furze, is capable of improvement.

Near Whitsand Bay is the site of an ancient castle called Castle Mean; and also some remains of a chapel.

About eight miles from the Land's End a tremendous rock rises in the sea called *The Wolf*; a name too mournfully applicable from its having proved fatal to many ships and mariners in dark and tempestuous weather. An attempt was made some years since, to fix an enormous figure of copper on this rock, resembling a wolf. Being hollow within, it was intended to construct it in such a manner, that the mouth receiving the angry tempest, should emit a dreadful sound, corresponding with the howlings of a wolf, to warn mariners of their approach to it. It was also intended to cause bells to be so suspended, as to ring or toll with the powerful blast, and the heaving surges, to aid the roaring of the wolf, and produce the greatest possible effect. But this benevolent design, after several ineffectual efforts had been made at a vast expence, was ultimately defeated by the violence of the elements with which the structure had to contend, and by which the philanthropic projector had nearly lost his life. It is probable that the devastations occasioned by this destructive rock, gave birth to its present name.

In 1750, John Roberts of this parish, digging for tin near Velindreath, found at the depth of thirty feet, an entire skeleton, about the size of a large deer, lying on its side. Near it, in a line parallel to its vertebre, was a prostrate oak tree, twenty feet long, and about the diameter of a

man's waist! On the branches, were numerous leaves, the impression of which, was plain in the earth. The tree was very hard at the knots, but so soft in some parts, that the shovel stuck into it. Unconnected with the skeleton, though near it, lay part of a deer's horn, two feet and a half long; thicker than a man's arm wrist, with the branched antlers to it. One of the knobs, thicker than a man's fist, as soon as touched crumbled into dust. A tooth was taken from the skeleton. In 1758, were found, twenty feet under the surface, several pieces of deer's, or elk's horn. The stratum in which they lay was, first the shelly sand of the shore, nine feet deep; then a sandy earth intermixed with small stones.—From the sudden subsidence probably of the shelving part of the hill, the animal and the tree were hurried away in one direction; and overwhelmed at the same instant.

About the year 1806, Mr. Dionysius Williams found some Roman coins in a field near the church, some of which he has now in his possession.

At Sennen church town, about a mile from the Land's End, there is an inn, the sign of which is on the one side, "The First Inn in England;" and on the other, "The Last Inn in England."

Sennen church-yard is kept very neat, the graves are paved with either brick or pebbles, which are regularly done up every year.

Sennen contains 2223 acres, 100 houses, and 495 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.

SITHNEY.

Sithney is situated two miles west-north-west of Helston.

At St. John's near Helston, an hospital was founded. This hospital was under the government of a prior, and was dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It is supposed to be a place of great antiquity; the remains of a monastery have been discovered within a few years, and on digging in a field, graves have been dug up with human bones. It is commonly called the City of St. Johns.

At Truthal, before the Norman Conquest, were a free chapel and cemetery, the ruins of which are yet to be seen.

In this parish, more than in the parish of Breage, is the fishing cove of Porthleven, rendered peculiarly interesting at this period by the extensive works which have been carrying on there during the last seven years, and therefore deserves to be enlarged upon in this survey.

Porthleven is situated nearly in the centre of the Mount's Bay, and about three quarters of a mile west of the Loe Bar. Previous to the alterations now making there, the inhabitants chiefly obtained a living by fishing only, and were generally very successful, particularly in catching lobsters and crayfish; during the season immense quantities are caught and sent to Southampton for the London market. The pilchard fishery also has frequently been abundant; but when neither of these occur, the fishermen employ their time in hook-fishing, and supply most of the fish consumed in Helston and its vicinity. But what makes this place the most remarkable for, and on account of which originated the works alluded to, are the number of wrecks which almost annually happen on this coast; it will be sufficient to preface the account by stating, that from the year 1807

to the close of the year 1809, more than twelve vessels met this fate at and near Porthleven; the most important of the whole was the Anson frigate commanded by Captain Liddiard, on the Loe Bar, December 29th, 1807. On this occasion it was supposed that at least 150 persons lost their lives, including the captain and several other officers. It was this wreck which gave rise to that humane act, which passed shortly after, to compel parish officers to bury drowned persons in consecrated ground; it was drawn up by the late Thomas Grylls, Esq. of Helston, and introduced into parliament by John Hearle Tremayne, Esq. one of the members for Cornwall.

It was in consequence of the numerous wrecks which occurred in that, and the two following years, that Mr. Tobias Roberts of Helston, was induced to propose a plan for making Porthleven into a harbour; and it is not doubted but by few that the plan afforded sufficient capabilities for affording a safe entrance, and protection to the largest ships in strong south-west winds. From the representations in a prospectus, published by him in 1810, some merchants in London readily subscribed the sum of £60,000 to carry the plan into effect, and by an act passed in the year 1811 the company was incorporated. This act allowed them five years to make the harbour capable of receiving vessels of 200 tons in safety, from which time harbour dues should commence; but from the dissensions and mismanagement which took place amongst the persons employed to carry the plan into effect, a considerable part of the capital has been uselessly expended, and the works delayed so long as to compel the company to apply to parliament for an extension of the five to seven years. The works are now in a progressive state, and it is expected will be completed next

summer. But the company has been obliged to borrow £12,000 on annuities, under a third act, to finish the undertaking.

The original plan provided for a pier head of solid granite 500 feet in length; but the company has not carried it farther than 450 feet, in the direction of south-west by south out of the harbour. The width of the entrance clear of all obstructions is 300 feet, with a depth when high water, at the mouth, of thirty-eight feet. At high water when the whole internal excavation is completed within the jutty, the depth of water is intended to be twenty feet. The jutty, which is a curved pier on the left of the entrance to what is called The Basin, has proved to be the most difficult and expensive part of the work, from the great depth of mud to be removed before a foundation can be obtained. All the sides of the entrance and round the basin, are protected by strong quay-work. There has been already established a considerable trade in timber, coals, lime, &c. &c. The fishery also is much enlarged, and from the great increase of population, the houses are also become more numerous, including a very handsome and convenient inn. This place is not inferior to any part of the Mount's Bay for its healthy air. In addition to the pecuniary advantages expected to result from so enterprising a concern, the valetudinarian and the invalid will have little occasion to travel to Italy or the south of France, to find a mild and salubrious atmosphere; the peculiarity of the situation being such as to be sheltered by surrounding hills from the bleak winds, and having the advantage of being in the vicinity of Penrose, the seat of John Rogers, Esq. (a finely wooded and picturesque scenery, which afford many interesting subjects to the landscape painter;) and by the erection of convenient bathing machines, it may

vie with, if not excel, any of the watering places at present so much frequented. Upon the whole the situation and other circumstances are most propitious to the undertaking now in hand, and they are such as must ensure to the public, great and incalculable advantages. Porthleven is formed by nature for security, is easy of access, and the harbour when completed will be sufficiently extensive and deep to contain a hundred vessels of a large class.

In this parish, about four miles north-west from Helston, there is a rude pile of stones, among which, in former ages, stood a celebrated logging rock, generally known by the name of *Mên-amber*. This name Dr. Borlase thinks to be a corruption of *Mên-an-bar*, which in the Cornish language signifies the *top-stone*. The stone itself is eleven feet long from east to west, four feet deep from top to bottom, and six feet wide. In former years, this stone would logg or move from side to side, with the application of a very inconsiderable force; and this circumstance, in conjunction with the traditionary accounts of its virtues and miraculous powers, which every age continued to propagate, collected together at certain seasons of the year, vast numbers of persons, who approached it with such superstitious rites, as cannot easily be reconciled with the pure principles of Christianity; but which thus insensibly led them to fan and keep alive that idolatrous fire, which Druidism had originally kindled.

On the superficies of this stone, some marks of a tool are visible, in those light and wavy indentations which seem to flow along its surface. From its quadrangular shape, Dr. Borlase imagines, that in the days of Druidism, this stone was dedicated to Mercury. And, as a rock bason is visible on the surface of that stone on which it originally moved, the same learned antiquary conceives, that the logging-stone

was raised upon it by human efforts, at some subsequent period, since rock basons have never been found in any stones that were not immediately exposed to the heavens.

Carew gives these lines :

“Be thou thy mother Nature’s work,
Or prooffe of giant’s might.
Worthlesse and rugged though thou show,
Yet art thou worth the sight.
This hugy rock, one finger’s force
Apparently will move ;
But to remove it many strengths,
Shall all like feeble prove.”

In the days of Oliver Cromwell, when superstition struck out a new path, and it became fashionable to treat every monument of antiquity with some mark of indignity, this stone was thrown off its balance ; and no doubt it lost its virtues when it lost its capacity to be moved. This top stone, says Mr. Scawen, in his MS. was so nicely balanced, that “a little child could instantly move it, and all travellers that came this way, desired to behold it ; but in the time of Cromwell, when all monumental things became despicable, one Shrubsall, then governor of Pendennis, by much ado, caused it to be undermined, and thrown down, to the great grief of the country.”

It does not appear however, that this moving stone was actually thrown off the pile on which it originally stood ; it was only thrown off its balance ; for although robbed of its primitive honours, it still remains resting in part on that surface which formerly supported its motion. But in the position which it now occupies, it evidently appears with marks of violence on it. Its under parts seem to have been cleared off by some instrument, so that being thus thrown from its proper balance by the destruction of its equipoise,

it lies in an inclined position, to inform future generations in what a variety of shapes superstition may appear.

Wheal Rose lead mine, in this parish, was worked for a considerable time, but the profits, from the low price of the metal, not being equal to the outgoings the mine was abandoned.

Wheal Pool lead mine under similar circumstances with Wheal Rose.

Wheal Lamb tin mine is principally the adventure of H. C. Blewett, Esq. and from every appearance it will make a good mine.

Wheal Unity lead mine near Porthleven, is in its infancy, but the lode seems very enticing.

The stream-workings in this parish, have been very productive of tin, and have well paid the speculators. In many instances large pieces of wood tin have been discovered, Hazelnuts have also been found in those streams, which are supposed to have been there since the flood.

Penrose is the seat of John Rogers, Esq. rendered more particularly remarkable by the curious piece of water called the Loe Pool. This is one of the most considerable lakes in the county, covering a space of ground nearly seven miles in circumference, and formed by a natural operation of the sea, in raising a very thick and high bank of sand and pebbles against the mouth of the river Loe, which constantly impedes its outfall, and occasions it to spread over the valley. For a description of this pool, see under head Helston.

Trevarnoe is the seat of Christopher Wallis, Esq.

Antron is the seat of J. Rogers, Esq.

Newham is the seat of John Michell, Esq.

Near the Loe Pool, upwards of twenty years since, a person by the name of Duff was found in an adit, where he had been several days and nights without food, determined

to starve himself; he was conveyed to Helston, and lived many years afterwards. This adit in consequence of which has obtained the name of Duff's Hole.

Sithney contains 4896 acres, 293 houses, and 1552 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



STITHIANS.

This parish is situated five miles north-west of Penryn, about four south-south-east from Redruth, and about ten from Truro.

In Kennal Vale are gun-powder mills belonging to Messrs. Sampson, and Co. here are six water wheels constantly employed; two of which keep fourteen tons of marble (three tons and half in a block) constantly turning, making from four to five thousand barrels of gunpowder annually; some of the mills have occasionally blown up, but no life has been lost; it employs a fine fall of water of eighty-four feet; possibly such a situation for convenience, and security is without a parallel in this kingdom.—Half a mile above this is an extensive paper manufactory, where every kind of paper is made.—A little above is a hammer mill, and machinery for spinning yarn, &c. The source of this river, will be found at the foot of Carnbenellis in the parish of Wendron, from whence to Perran-Wharf, a distance of about seven miles, there are no less than forty-eight water wheels actively employed.

From this parish, as well as Mabe and Constantine, great quantities of moorestone are taken and shipped at Penryn for London and other parts of the kingdom.

Tretheage was the seat of the late Captain Curgenvén.

Trevales was the seat of Richard Read, Esq. is now the property and residence of T. Hocker, Esq.

Tory an ancient seat, is now inhabited by a farmer.

Stithians contains 3987 acres, 188 houses, and 1394 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.



TOWEDNACK.

Towednack is about two miles and half nearly south of St. Ives.

This parish is dedicated to St. Wednack, or Winnack.

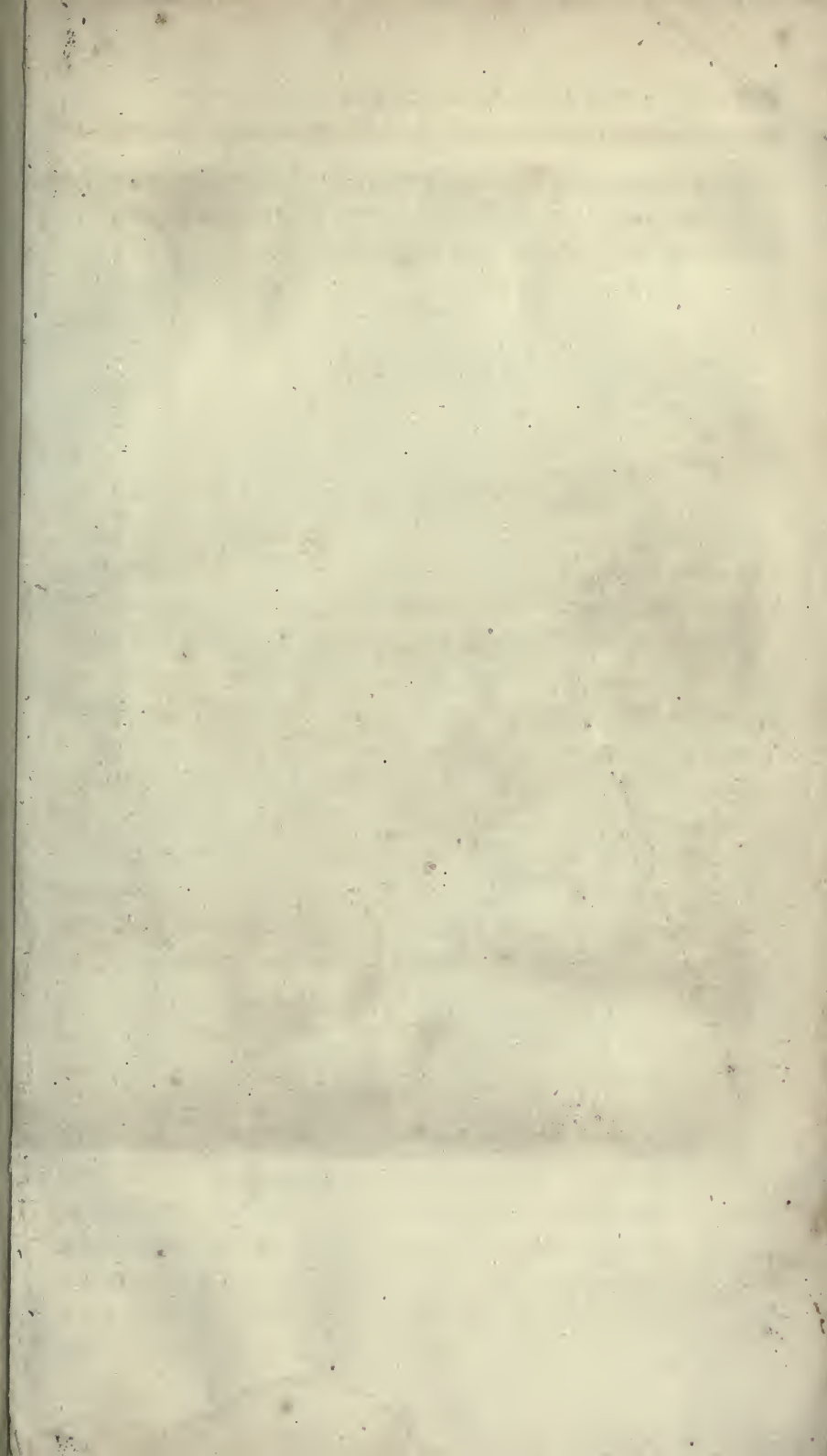
Mr. Tonkin, in a letter to Bishop Gibson, dated August 4th, 1733, says, that "In 1702, in the parish of Towednack, between St. Ives and the Land's End, where found under a prodigious rock of moorstone called the Giant's Rock, a large flat stone supported by four pillars of the same, an urn full of ashes, with a round ball of earth by the side of it, and in the said ball fourscore silver coins of the latter emperors, very fair and well preserved. I could not have a sight of more than five of them, of which I got three; of Valentinian I. Gratian, and Arcadius; the rest were seized for the lord of the soil."

Towednack contains 2569 acres, 101 houses, and 532 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.



TRURO.

This ancient and celebrated town has been occasionally denominated in the old records, *Tre-ve-ru*, *Tre-urea*, *Treru*, *Tre-uro*, *Truru-burgh*, and *Truro*. In the Domesday Survey it is called *Treurgeu*, and is said at that time to be held by the Earl of Moreton. This town was afterwards in the possession of Richard de Lucy, from whom it passed to Reginald Fitzroy, who was created Earl of Cornwall by

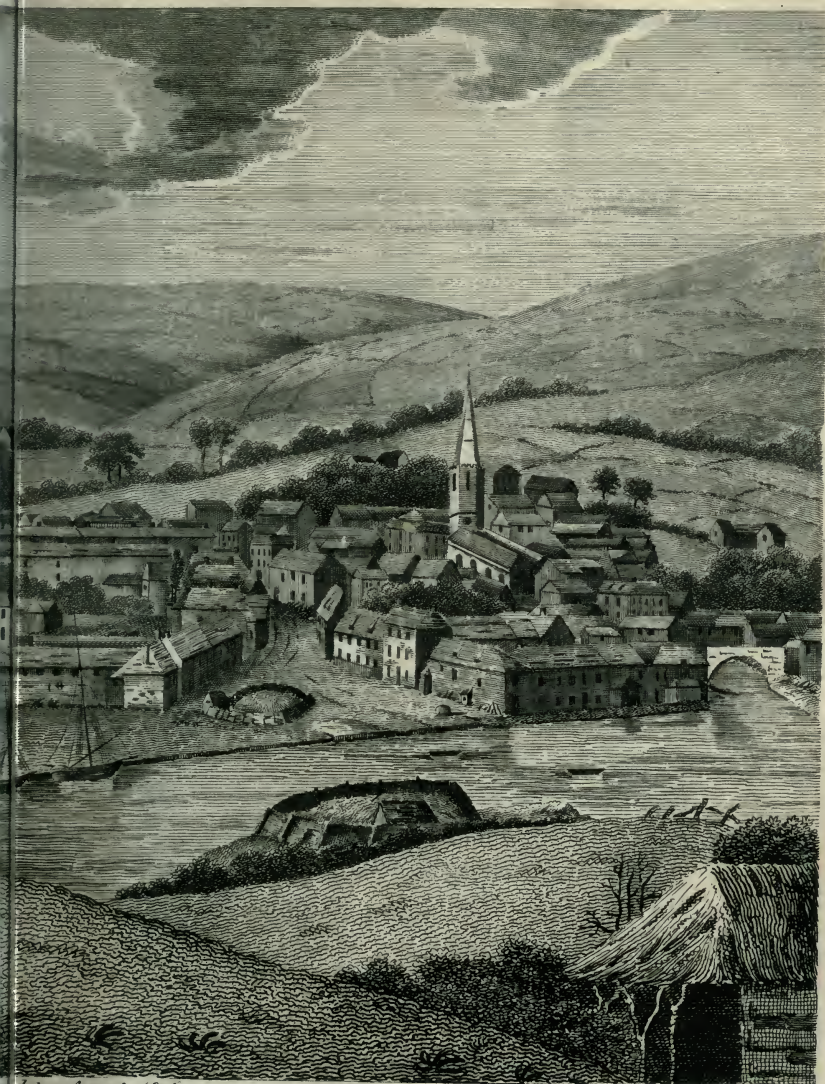




Drawn by T. Ashwin

Published by W. Pennington

EAST VIEW
Dedicated by Permission to the Worshipful the Mayor
By their obedient



Truro, August, 1810.

Engraved by T. Brandard

OF TRURO

& Corporation of the Borough of Truro.
Wm. Penatuna.

king Stephen. Reginald by this charter granted to his free burgesses of *Triuereu*, that they should have all such free customs as were used in cities, and as they enjoyed in the time of De Lucy. He also granted to them an exemption from prosecution in hundred and county courts, and from all law proceedings that might call them from the town. That in all fairs and markets throughout Cornwall, they should be discharged from the payment of tolls in every thing they either bought or sold; and that for goods which they trusted, they should be permitted to distrain their debtors whenever they found them within the liberties of their town. This charter was confirmed by another in the reign of Henry II. and both were ratified and augmented with additional privileges by Edward I. in the 13th year of his reign. To this charter Edmund Earl of Cornwall was witness; by virtue of which, among other marks of favour, the inhabitants were permitted to send two members to parliament; but under what particular restrictions are now uncertain, as the original charters are all lost.

It appears from Dr. Brady, that Richard actually resided at the castle of Truro, but of which not a vestige remains. The spot on which it stood is now a waste area, on an eminence at the north-west end of the town. It is still distinguished by its name, and by the artificial mound of earth on which the edifice was erected. But nothing remains to point out the extent of the building, or to direct the inquirer to the age when the fabric was raised. And even the tumulus on which it stood is daily decreasing, the earth being carried from the spot for such purposes as the wants of those who remove it may require. It also appears from the immunity which granted them an exemption from toll throughout the county, that Richard must have exercised, not merely the authority of lord of a castle, town, or

borough, but must have been invested with that of Earl of Cornwall. From the loss of these charters it is also uncertain at what period the town was incorporated. Probably it was very early. Some have supposed that it was about the year 1140, as in this year Lucy resigned his possessions to Reginald.

But in all these charters, no mention is made of the jurisdiction which the town of Truro extended over Falmouth Harbour. This is said to have been granted by king John, and is thus recorded in the herald's visitation in 1620:—"We find that the mayor of Truro hath always been, and still is, mayor of Falmouth, as by an ancient grant now in the custody of the mayor and burgesses doth appear." As Falmouth must have been equally destitute of power and existence, when this right of jurisdiction was granted, it is easy to conceive why Truro might be invested with this general dominion. On the margins of the harbour Tregony must have been its principal rival town; but whether the grant of jurisdiction was primarily given to the latter, and from thence transferred to the former is doubtful.

But whenever these grants were conferred, they are now wholly set aside by the successful efforts of the inhabitants of Falmouth. The mayor and corporation so late as the year 1709, proceeded to establish their claim of independence by perambulating the town, and by including within its bounds all the country as far as the Black Rock in the mouth of the harbour. This cause was afterwards brought to a legal issue, and decided in favour of Falmouth, the inhabitants of which now enjoy the advantages that were formerly connected with Truro.

By an undisputed charter granted by queen Elizabeth, and bearing date 1589, the government and political power

of Truro is vested in a mayor, four aldermen, and twenty capital burgesses. The patronage of this borough has of late years rested with Lord Falmouth, who acquired it by an exchange with Lord de Dunstanville for that of Tregony. It appears by an ancient custom, that on the election of a mayor, the town mace must be delivered up to the lord of the manor, by whom it is retained until he receives sixpence for every house in the borough, as an acknowledgment of his ancient authority.

On the renewal of the water-bounds of this borough, a singular custom connected with the tenures and rights of the corporation is practised, viz.—On reaching the extreme limits of its jurisdiction, the mayor and town clerk, accompanied by such members of the corporation and other inhabitants as are present, go on shore. A writ for the sum of £999 19s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. is then produced against a person selected for the purpose, who is arrested by the bailiff of the borough, on which two of the party offer themselves as bail, and the supposed prisoner is liberated.

The last stannary parliament was held in Truro, in the year 1752, and continued by some adjournments until the autumn of the following year. The vice-warden's courts are held regularly on the first tuesday in every month. The coinage hall is an ancient heavy structure, standing at the east end of Boscawen-street, in which the process of coining the tin is carried on every quarter.

The central situation of this town, with respect to the commerce and chief productions of the county, its improved and improving state, the handsome appearance of several of its streets and buildings, its increased population, and the similarity of its local regulations to those of the principal cities of the kingdom, justly entitle it to be considered as the metropolis of the county.—It is situated in a deep dell, at the conflux of the two small rivers Kenwyn and St.

Allen, which direct their streams on each side of the town, and at the bottom unite with a branch of Falmouth Harbour, commonly called Truro Creek or River. At every spring tide, the collected waters form a fine lake, two miles in length, and of sufficient depth to be navigable for vessels of upwards of 100 tons burden; which advantageous situation, has, without doubt, been the principal cause of the rapid improvement of the town.

On the road leading to Falmouth, rising with gentle acclivity on a considerable hill, an elegant new street called Lemon-street, has been formed, in which sufficient attention has been paid to space and convenience. The houses are built on a regular scale, and faced with granite.—The town consists of about twelve streets, through the principal of which run the roads to St. Austle, on the east; to Falmouth, on the south; to Redruth, on the west; and to Bodmin, on the north. The town being nearly surrounded by water, is connected with its suburbs by short stone bridges, which derive their names from the direction in which they lie, as the east-bridge, the west-bridge, &c. There are some pleasant walks and rides round the town. The new road from St. Austle-street to Mopus along the banks of the river, is, when the tide is in, and the several gay pleasure-boats gliding on its surface, highly diversified and pleasing; near the commencement of this road is Waterloo Crescent, which commands a beautiful view of the town and river, Kenwyn Church, and the several villas interspersed through the rich surrounding country. The plan of the building is as judicious as its situation is happily selected, and the whole will, when finished, reflect equal credit on the design and execution.

Since the middle row of houses stretching from the market-place towards the coinage hall, has been pulled down, and the numerous projections of shops and porches

have been removed, its spacious streets and buildings have an airiness and cleanliness, such as very few towns in England can boast. And with the wide foot pavement of flat stone, a stream of water keeps pace in every street.

The waters of Truro Creek and St. Clement's or Tre-silian Creek, meeting together at Mopus, from which place the tide never departs, acquire sufficient depth for such merchant ships as find it necessary to frequent this branch of the spacious inlet. At this place, according to Leland, a naval engagement took place, not long before the time of his writing, in the days of Henry VIII. between about eighteen Spanish merchant vessels, and a ship of war from Dieppe. The waters thus collected at Mopus Road, descend with the tide to Lamorran Creek, where they join the Fal, and form a general confluence at the foot of Tregothnan. From this place they proceed in one body about two miles, when they enter Carreg Road, and are lost in Falmouth Harbour. Thus the whole collected waters repair to the sea between Pendennis Castle on the western bank, and the creek of St. Mawes or Anthony Point on the east, through a passage about a mile wide.

The trade of Truro consists principally in exporting tin and copper ore; the former to the Mediterranean, and the latter to Wales. Coals are brought here by vessels from the principality, and timber (used principally in the mines) by ships from Norway. A shipping company was established here about five years ago, for the purpose of trading to and from London. The proprietors have three regular vessels, and the concern holds out prospects of advantage.

At the carpet manufactory is machinery sufficient for manufacturing 1000 yards of carpetting per week, from 1s. 8d. to 10s. per yard. As wool there passes through every process, from the sheep's back to the manufactured

article, from five to seven hundred men, women, and children are weekly employed.—The Brussell's carpetting there manufactured, is considered equal in quality and superior in brilliancy of colouring to any in the kingdom. The commencement of the late war occasioned great stagnation to the trade.

Here is also a smelting-house, iron foundery, and pottery, and in the immediate vicinity of the town, smelting-houses, blowing-house, paper-mill, tucking-mill, and a large superfine broad cloth manufactory.

The theatre, which stands in the High-Cross, possesses no exterior beauty, but is so judiciously contrived within as to be either perfectly adapted for scenic representations, or easily converted into an elegant ball-room; connected with which are card-rooms, and apartments for refreshments.

There is a county library in Prince's-street, founded in the year 1792, by donations, and supported by annual subscriptions of one guinea and upwards. The librarian has apartments in the house, and a salary of £15 per annum. The library consists at present of about 3000 volumes.

A Literary and Philosophical Society has been lately instituted at Truro, the members of which deliver lectures on literary and philosophical subjects twice a week, during the spring quarter. The society has a repository tolerably well furnished, and a laboratory for chemical researches, and promises to co-operate powerfully with the sister society at Penzance, in the promotion and diffusion of science.

The county infirmary stands on an eminence at the south-west part of the town, and is in the parish of Kenwyn. It is a plain and spacious stone building, well situated with respect to airiness and other conveniencies. It was erected by public donations in the year 1799, and is supported by voluntary contributions. His royal highness the Duke of Cornwall, and the several classes of nobility and gentry

have uniformly contributed in a munificent manner to its support. It is under admirable regulations, and has been the means of alleviating the distresses of thousands of the unfortunate and destitute poor.

The Truro Humane Institution was established about five years since, and is supported by voluntary contribution. Its object is to grant pecuniary relief to the destitute, especially to strangers.—There is also an excellent charity conducted by ladies, called the Lying-in Institution, for the purpose of providing bed and child linen, &c. for poor women.

The market, which is of modern erection, is compact and convenient, although rather too small for the increasing population of the town. The market-days are Wednesdays and Saturdays, on the latter of which it is abundantly supplied with butchers' meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, and other edibles.

The town-hall, which stands over the principal entrance of the market, is a plain substantial building of stone, consisting of two large airy rooms, in which the magisterial business of the town is transacted, and the Easter quarter sessions for the county, as well as the petty sessions for the western division of the hundred, are held.

Near the infirmary is a range of temporary barracks for cavalry, possessing similar advantages with respect to air, roominess, and prospect; commanding the whole of the town and much of the circumjacent country.

The church is a spacious and handsome fabric, of that elegant kind of architecture which flourished in England about the time of Henry VII. It stands near the centre of the town, in an open space called the Cross (probably from its having been the site of one of those religious memorials) a considerable part of which is enclosed by a dwarf wall,

and was formerly the burying-ground of St. Mary's, in which this borough is partly situated. This burying-ground was, till recently, further enclosed by iron palisades, and ornamented with rows of trees, (some of which still remain.) which must have had a becoming effect, and their removal is to be regretted. The spire of the church is of a more modern date than the main building; and is remarkably plain, by no means corresponding with the architecture of the body of the edifice. The tower presents four dial-plates, shewing the hour of the day in every possible direction, but contains only two bells, which are used occasionally as an alarm in case of fire. The church consists of two aisles of equal size, and a smaller one on the north side, which appears to have been enlarged on an injudicious plan. The vaulted ceiling is supported by gothic pillars. There are some remains of painted glass in the upper compartments of the arched windows, and some curious mural monuments near the east end; and particularly one on the north side of the chancel, to the memory of Owen Fitz Penals Phipps, a native of Melcombe in Dorset, who was buried here in 1636, and who with ten other christian captives, escaped from Algiers, defeated sixty-five Turks in their own ship, and carried their vessel to Spain. A long account of his adventures is inscribed on his tablet. The church has the advantage of a powerful and fine-toned organ, and divine service is conducted here with much choral effect. Public worship is celebrated here three times every sabbath-day, as well as on the usual fasts and festivals; and prayers are regularly read on Wednesdays and Fridays. In the winter evenings the church is lighted by lamps and candles, the effect of which is peculiarly grand and imposing.

There is a grammar school at Truro, the salary of the master is £25 per annum, and the same sum to an usher.

A central school on Dr. Bell's plan, for boys and girls, in separate rooms, was established here in 1812, and is liberally supported. There are now 130 boys, and about seventy girls in the school.

Meeting-houses for Independents, Baptists, Methodists, and other sects of dissenters, are in different parts of the town, some of which have Sunday schools attached to them.

Mr. Henry Williams, draper, of this town, who died in 1631, founded an hospital for ten poor housekeepers of this town. The hospital was built the following year, at an expence of £225 19s. 7d. and endowed with lands lately producing about £120 per annum. The corporation make widows the exclusive objects of this charity, and allow them pensions of four shillings a week each, and clothes. There are some other religious and charitable institutions in the town, which need not be here particularized.

The various amusements of the town, are occasionally diversified by the visits of a respectable company of players, who, however, seldom come here above once in three years ; but assemblies are held here monthly during the winter season, and three public concerts take place annually.

An annual sailing match, which had fallen into disuse, was revived in 1816, and it is understood, will be continued in future.

A cricket club has been established about six years, meets every Tuesday during the summer in the ground engaged for that purpose near the Michell road, to the north of the town.

The Philharmonic Society has been established upwards of twenty years ; it consists of gentlemen amateurs, highly respectable for their scientific attainments, who are further assisted by professional performers of the town and neighbourhood. The society gives about thirty concerts every year, which are numerously and fashionably attended. Its

meetings, which have hitherto been held in the town hall, have recently been transferred to the assembly-room.

Sir Hussy Vivian, knight, a major-general in the army, an aid-de-camp to the Prince Regent, and esteemed one of the best officers in the service, is a native of this town. He entered at a very early age into the military profession, and served in the East Indies, with distinction. After the death of Tippo Saib, and the subjugation of his territory, he returned to England, and has ever since been actively employed. He was present at most of the great battles fought by the duke of Wellington, and was severely wounded at Talavera. On his recovery, he was promoted, and received the honour of knighthood, the well-earned rewards of a series of gallant actions.

James Macarvic, Esq. born at Truro in 1742, at an early age distinguished himself by making a considerable progress in classical erudition, but embracing the profession of arms, he obtained a colonel's commission, and served with applause in several campaigns. On the termination of the American war, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general, and was made governor of Cape Breton, where he resided several years. Returning to England, with a constitution much impaired through age and infirmities, brought on by a long train of arduous duties, he died at West Looe, August 20, 1815.

Samuel Foote, Esq. was born in 1721, in the house now the Red Lion Inn. In the year 1747, he opened the Little Theatre in the Haymarket, with a drama of his own composing, called the "Diversions of a morning." In the same year he published, in 8vo. "The English and Roman comedy considered and compared," &c. After this, Mr. Foote applied himself to writing farces, and short comedies of two acts, such as "The knights of the Land's End," "Englishman at Paris," &c. A list of these. (some of

which are still occasionally performed,) is given in the "Biographia dramatica." He died very suddenly, at Dover, in 1771, and was buried at Westminster Abbey. He was celebrated both for his vices and his virtues, and possessed an inexhaustible fund of humour, on the stage as well as in private life.

In 1772, John Richards of Truro died aged 107 or 137.

In 1756, a tortoise or turtle was taken by the drovers in the mackarel nets, four leagues south of Pendennis Castle, and brought alive to Truro. It had seven spinous ridges in its shell, and six flat, smooth, fleshy fins, without nails, of a blueish colour; but on the under part they were ruddy, flesh-coloured, and speckled with dark spots, as well as in the under part of the neck. It weighed about 800lbs. and was six feet five inches in length, from the tip of the nose to the end of its shell.

Tregolls, the seat of Rear-Admiral Luke, is adjoining the east end of the town.

Newham, the seat of R. A. Daniell, Esq.

Truro contains 400 houses, and 2482 inhabitants, in what is strictly named the borough, which extends over the whole parish of St. Mary's; and the neighbouring "streets," or suburbs, in the parishes of St. Clement and Kenwyn, contain at least as many more; is in the hundred of Powder.—It is 255 miles from London, 82 from Exeter, 53 from Plymouth-Dock, and 11 from Falmouth.



WENDRON.

This parish is two miles and half from Helston. Although Helston is a chapelry of Wendron, in most respects it may be considered a separate parish.

On the summit of a hill called Karne Menezes, there is a singular monument, which is of great antiquity, and carries with it every mark of being purely British. This monument is nearly circular. Its circumference is described by a number of rude stones, irregularly placed by the side of each other, on the edge of a trench which they enclose. This trench is about thirty-five feet and a half in diameter, but of no great depth. Nearly in the middle of this circle, and of this trench, is a pile of natural rocks. This pile consists of four thin stones, placed by nature upon each other. The uppermost stone is nearly circular, and measures about nineteen feet in diameter. In this monument of antiquity, both art and nature seem to be combined; but to what uses it was applied, we know nothing but from analogy and conjecture. On this hill there are also two barrows, which, from one of them being walled at the edge no less than five feet high, suggest the idea of their being Roman. In one of these it has been reported that some coins of Julius Cesar have been found; which, if true, adds a strong circumstance in favour of their Roman origin.

At Trenere is an arched vault of moorstone, said to have been a cellar of the ancient dukes of Cornwall, and this is one of their hunting seats. This vault, which is very entire, indicates a place of some distinction.

At Marooney some remains of an ancient church or chapel called *Merther-uni*, or *Uni-Gwendron*, are still to be seen; many stones of which were carried to Traro, in order to build the spire of the church.

On the road leading from Wendron church town to Redruth, are *The Nine Maidens*. Dr. Borlase thinks, if we may take analogy for our guide, that these stones were originally erected, either to commemorate some extraordinary action which took place on or near this spot, or to

mark the boundaries of some territorial rights. These conjectures he founds upon resemblance to some erected stones in Westmoreland and in Anglesea. In the former, the event of some dreadful battle is commemorated; and in the latter the termination of some patrimonial possessions is shewn. It is hard to say from which of these purposes the Nine Maidens were erected.

But how difficult soever it may be, to ascertain the distinct nature of those events, which any peculiar arrangement of these monumental stones denotes, many attempts have been made to discover a criterion, but with what success we are not bound to determine. Olaus Magnus asserts, that whenever we find any given number of stones erected in a triangular form, it denotes a victory obtained near that place by a troop of horse; and that when these stones are laid out in a square manner, they point out a place, in which either two armies engaged, or in which two renowned combatants fought. The same author asserts, that when these stones are placed in a circular position, the burial place of some family of renown, riches, or valour, is always pointed out.

In this parish more particularly than any other, goats are a great support to the lower orders; at most cottage doors are two or three of these very useful animals, with the hind and fore leg tied together, to prevent their escaping to the hills, or wandering from home. These animals chiefly supply the poor children with milk; or in many cases the distress would be very great.

Among the most ancient mines of Cornwall, may be reckoned some in the higher parts of Wendron parish. These being situated in a wild of barren hills, which appear never to have been cultivated, could not have held out any agricultural temptations to the Romans to visit them. Yet

it is certain from some Roman coins that were found in a stone barrow called Golvadnek Barrow, not far from the old workings, in 1700, that the Romans had been there, and very probably had taken up their abode in this place for some considerable time.

Trevenen tin mine was worked for many years, with considerable profit to the adventurers, but from some misfortune in the mine, the adventurers expended a great deal of money, and the returns not being equal to the outgoings, the mine was abandoned.

Wheal Ann tin mine, near Trevenen, was worked about twenty years since with a steam-engine, which gained to the adventurers about £16,000. The engine being to the extent of its power, and prior to that time new regulations taking place, the workings were abandoned. The mine is about 120 fathoms deep; and from the account of good miners, the undertaking deserves fresh speculators.

Wheal Trumpet is worked with a water-wheel machine, 220 fathoms distant from the engine shaft. This mine has been in course of working for the last ten years, but, until within the last nine months she has not covered cost. The tin is of an excellent quality, it has produced thirteen and half for twenty, and is supposed to be the best mine tin in the county, and is very desirable for the smelters to mix with tin of an inferior quality. The lode varies from six to twelve, and eighteen inches, and the mine is about eighty fathoms deep, and has been worked about ninety fathoms on the course of the lode. This will, no doubt, eventually make a good mine.

Wheal Franchis was worked about twenty-six years since by a water-whim; the depth of the mine is about thirty-eight fathoms, and the produce copper and tin. The copper when the standard of ore was £70 per ton, brought

£30 and £35 per ton. The tin at the western part of the mine is mixed with copper, and at the eastern is very clean of *brood*. The mine when constantly worked produced gain; is now worked by a few poor men, in the summer season, also with profit.

Wheal Noon was worked on the back 200 fathoms in length, supposed to be a very ancient mine. Its produce is tin, and is of a good quality.

Wheal Valls mine was worked with a steam-engine about fourteen years since. Its depth is about ninety fathoms, and was worked fifty fathoms on the course of the lode. The tin is of a good quality.

Wheal Providence mine, the western part of which was worked about ten years and produced very good tin. The eastern part resumed working about four years since by a poor man and his family, who have sunk shafts and drove the adit on the course of the lode about fifty fathoms. The mine is now in course of working, and is likely to continue very good.

The stream-works in this parish, are very productive, and amply pay the labourers.

Trenethick is the property of P. Hill, Esq. and occupied by the Rev. T. Wills.

Trelill, late the seat of William Harris, Esq. deceased, is now occupied by Mr. Hawkey.

Nansloe, late the seat of the Rev. W. Robinson, deceased, is the property of Philip Vyvyan Robinson, Esq.

Elizabeth Kemp, widow, of this parish, died in the year 1805, aged 104.

Wendron contains 12317 acres, 687 houses, and 3555 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Kirrier.

ZENNOR.

This parish is situated four miles west-south-west from St. Ives, and nearly seven miles north of Penzance.

In this parish there is an irregular formed circle, it consists of small stones thrown together in a ridge, in a loose and apparently careless manner. To this enclosure there is but one entrance, immediately within which there is a tall pillar, the top of which has a flat surface. This circle, Dr. Borlase supposes to have been used for the purpose of electing individuals to fill some particular offices; and he intimates, that we may gather from the stones being small and numerous, that the election was popular, and determined by the voice of all the common people, who had a right to give their suffrages.

The greater part of this parish is a mass of moorstone; the only cultivated land is a strip about half a mile in breadth, near the sea. The arable land is particularly noticed for its abundant produce of barley.

Zennor contains 3647 acres, 133 houses, and 671 inhabitants; is in the hundred of Penwith.

Chief Productions and Manner of Working Mines, &c. in Cornwall.

THE chief productions of the mines of Cornwall are tin, copper, lead, and some silver. The strata in which these metals are found, extend from the Land's End, in a direction from west to east, entirely along the county; but the seat of mining at present is to the westward of Truro. The ores are all found in veins, which are here denominated *lodes*; the direction of the most valuable of these lodes is generally east and west, but their breadth, depth, and length, are all different. Their course is very irregular. The sides or *walls* of the lodes do not always consist of the same kind of matter, for one side of a vein is frequently found to be rocky, whilst the other is composed of a soft clay.

It frequently happens that metalliferous veins are connected with others, branching in different directions, like the boughs of a tree, but which do not contain ore. The occurrence of those veins, (which from their direction are called *cross gossans*, or *cross courses*) is generally productive of much trouble to the miner, as they not only intersect the other veins, but frequently turn them out of their position.

The indications of a lode or vein of metal being in the earth, are either a partial deficiency of vegetation on the ground; a harsh metallic taste in the neighbouring springs; or the discovery of scattered fragments of ore on the surface. A common practice with miners is to cut *drifts*, or trenches in the ground, from north to south, and to a considerable depth; by which means any intermediate lodes will be cut through at right angles. Tin is sometimes found collected in lodes or *floors*, and at others, it is discovered interspersed in loose grains and small masses in the natural rock. In its dispersed form, tin is either met with in a pulverized sandy state, in separate stones, termed *shodes*, or in a continued course of such stones, which, when found together in great numbers, are called a *stream*.

Cornwall also produces gold, (some of which have been found in small quantities) iron, and semi-metals, viz. bismuth, zinc, antimony, cobalt, arsenic, wolfram, menáchanite, and molybdena or sulphuret of molybdenum.

In carrying on the work of a mine, three principal objects must always be kept in view. These are, the convenience of removing the rubbish, the facility of carrying off the water, and the means of raising and purifying the ore.—

As all the tin-stuff, and sometimes all the water, and a considerable proportion of the rubbish must be raised to the surface, it is obvious that the difficulties of working a mine, as well as the expence attending it, must increase in proportion to the depth of the mine. On this account every effort of human ingenuity, and all the aid which mechanical powers and machinery can afford, are introduced. And although these have of late years displayed a degree of perfection to which former generations were total strangers, the depth of some mines have occasioned a weight of expence which the produce has been insufficient to support; and, as a natural consequence, their subterranean riches have been abandoned.

To raise the broken ore, &c. from the bottom, one of the most simple, and yet most valuable machines in use, is called a *whim*. This is said to have derived its name from a gentleman called Coster, being one day observed by his associates busily engaged about something that resembled machinery, was asked what he was doing. "I have a *whim* in my head, and am trying to reduce it to practice;" was the reply. Coster's whim at first produced much mirth, and many sarcastic observations; but as it approached towards perfection, ridicule gave place to respect, and the whim was found to be a most valuable contrivance.

Among the various contrivances hitherto formed by art, for raising the water from the under ground workings, the bob-engine, and the fire or steam-engine, may be considered as the principal. The first account of these curious machines is recorded by the Marquis of Worcester, in the year 1663, to which many important discoveries and improvements have been made by Bolton and Watts, Cartwright, Hornblower, Woolf, Trevithick, and others. At present the rival geniuses in Cornwall are Woolf and Trevithick. Both have already rendered their names immortal by their improvements and inventions. The principal advantages resulting from their engines, consist in the saving of fuel, and the giving greater elasticity and use to the steam they respectively raise. Woolf has been happily successful in generating steam, and Trevithick in the giving of it new force, and in the simplicity of his machines.

The method of stamping and dressing tin ore, is said to be introduced by Sir Francis Godolphin.

To prepare tin ores for market, a different process is adopted from that used on the ores of copper. After the tin ore is broken from the vein and brought to the surface, the large rocks are reduced (or *spalled*) to the size of an egg, and taken to the steam stamps, some of which have 48 heads, or to the vallies, where there are many mills called stamping-mills, which by means of a stream of water passing over wheels of different diameters, reduce the tin-stuff to

powder. This is effected by the axle of each wheel being applied to three heavy weights, or hammers, called *stamp-heads*, which rise and fall successively, with the circumvolution of the wheel; and the tin-stuff is conveyed through proper channels to the place on which those heads constantly beat. By the judicious direction given to the stream by the workmen employed, it also carries from the mills the tin-stuff thus, pulverized, and lodges it in a pit made for the purpose, about eight feet long and four feet broad, at the end of which are proper stops to prevent the passage of the water until the tin-stuff is precipitated; the heaviest part falling at the head of the pit, and the lightest at the tail. The water which is allowed to overflow at the end, is conveyed to other pits of a similar description, which receive and detain the lighter particles, called *slimes*, until at length the stream joins the main river, bearing little or nothing with it. The tin in the first pit is divided into three parts, viz. the *head*, or *best work*, including about three feet, according to the workman's judgment and the quality of the work; the *middle*, about two feet; and the *tail*. A little labour in washing the tin-stuff in the head, will generally be sufficient to bring it fit for the burning-house; but the middle and the tail require much exertion in buddling, sieving, washing, kieving, &c. to reduce it to a state fit to be mixed with the former, for burning. This state being obtained, the whole is calcined by being roasted in the burning-house, in order that the arsenic which it contains may be evaporated. After going through another washing, it is made up in sacks, and conveyed on the backs of mules, &c. to the smelting-house, for sale. In this state it is called *black tin*. A small quantity is taken from each sack by a person belonging to the smelting-house, and the rest is weighed in hundreds, quarters, and pounds. From the small quantity previously selected, five ounces are nicely weighed, and assayed in a black lead crucible with charcoal for a flux. Thus the white tin is separated; and, according to the quantity and quality produced, the value is estimated and the purchase made. The workmen in the smelting-house then reduce all the black tin by means of large furnaces and charcoal fluxes, to a fluid state, and cast it into moulds; from which, when cold, it is taken up in *blocks*, weighing from 2cwt. 3qrs. to 3cwt. 3qrs. and sent to the coinage towns to be coined, and to receive the Duke of Cornwall's stamp, without which it is not saleable, but liable to be seized. For every hundred weight of tin coined, the officers of the dutchy receive four shillings. The tin is then ready for the merchant or for the East India Company.

The machinery and manner of procuring copper ore, are so correspondent with those employed in raising tin, that a description is not necessary. The ore both in the lodes, and when taken from the mines, appears in a variety

of colours ; the principal of which are green, blue, black, red, and grey. That which is grey, without including any other mixture, is generally the most valuable. Sometimes certain portions have been found in a malleable state. When broken from the lodes, each part according to their quality, is carefully laid by itself, and when raised to the surface, these parts are laid in distinct heaps on the grass or floors. In this place the larger masses are reduced by sledges to the size of large eggs, which furnishes the man so employed with another opportunity of modifying the arrangements that had been previously made, and of selecting a portion sufficiently pure for the market. From these heaps the ore is carried to sheds or houses, where either men or boys, and frequently women and children, with a slab of flattened iron beat it to small pieces, or to powder, upon a hard stone fixed before them. From these bucking-mills, as they are termed, the ore is made to pass through a griddle, which forms a criterion of its reduction. Such as is too large to pass, must be again beaten ; after which the whole is carried to a heap and is ready for sale.

When the copper ore is taken from the mine and partly cleared from its extraneous matrix, by washing, pounding, sifting, &c. (called by the work-people *cobbing*, *bucking*, and *jigging* !) is weighed out into parcels, or *doles*, until the sampling agents from the different copper companies attend to take a sample of each parcel, in order that the assayers of the respective companies may ascertain the produce of fine copper contained in each ton (of twenty-one hundred weight) of the ore, in its crude state. A great deal of care is necessary in selecting the sample, which is taken from the centre of two doles out of six from each parcel, in quantity about 2cwt. This quantity is well mixed with a shovel, and reduced down to about 20lbs. It is then twice divided, and twice pounded on a flat iron, and sifted through a fine sieve. Afterwards it is turned from hand to hand five times, a girl stirring it round with the hand ; after which it is once more sifted through a fine sieve, and carefully taken up by each sampling agent, in a clean bag, containing about 2lbs. of the mineral, for the attention of the assayer ; and on his acquaintance with his art depends the fair adjustment between the buyer and seller. The mode adopted to obtain a knowledge in what is called the *dry* way, of the quantity of copper or metal in a sample, is as follows. First, 400 grains of the ore are weighed up in a dry state. This ore is then roasted, and fluxed by alkaline fluxes, until it is reduced to a state of *regulus*, or semi-metal.—After this process, it is finely pulverized, calcined, and refined, by the white fluxes or neutral salts. Calculations are then made, and certain returning charges are deducted. The sale of ores, which is technically called the *ticketting*, takes place when the agents

deliver in their tickets, specifying the prices at which they are willing to become purchasers for their different employers. After the ticketing has closed, the ores are taken from the mines to the different wharfs, and shipped for Wales, to be there smelted in the large way, except what is purchased by the Cornish Copper Company, who have houses established at Hayle.—These works are prosecuted on an extensive scale. The furnaces erected in this place, which are all reverberatory, are between twenty and thirty, some of which are employed in roasting, and others in fusing the ore. Those employed for roasting, contain about three tons of ore each, which is spread in such a manner as to be exposed to the action of the fire for several hours. Taken from these furnaces in a crude but somewhat purified state, the ore is carried to smaller furnaces, where it is melted with a certain flux which neither the proprietors nor the workmen seem willing to publish. During this operation the scoria is removed from the liquid metal once in three or four hours, and such variable modes of management are pursued as the appearance of the metal may seem to demand. After remaining in this state ten or twelve hours, the glowing mass is let out into a large tub sunk in the ground and full of water. By this means it is reduced to small grains, generally known by the name of regulus. In this state the granulated matter is carried to another furnace, where it undergoes another process somewhat similar to the preceding; and from this it is carried to a fourth, when it becomes coarse copper, being cast into quadrangular moulds called pigs. But although through these processes it has been acquiring additional degrees of purity, it is not yet sufficiently refined. It must once more pass through the fire before it can be finally cast into moulds and rendered fit for market. After it is sufficiently refined, it is poured into neat iron moulds coated with clay, where it is left to harden as fit for sale. The whole process necessary to bring the ore into perfect metal, requires about a fortnight. The quantity of ore annually fused at Hayle, varies from 4000 to 6000 tons.

The smelting of copper is always attended with deleterious effects. Dr. Maton has given a most awful picture of this employment. He says “Nothing can be more shocking than the appearance which these workmen exhibit. Some of the poor wretches, who were lading the liquid metal from the furnaces to the moulds, looked more like walking corpses than living beings.” The employment is certainly pernicious to human health; but the sallow complexion which the men exhibit while engaged in their work, is considerably heightened by the glare of their fires. Some among them however, though all have an emaciated appearance, reach the common age of man; but many others of less robust constitutions, frequently find an early grave.

To describe the manner in which the workings under ground are conducted, none but a scientific miner, whose life has been engaged in this employment, is fully competent. And even with men of this description, of whom Cornwall can produce vast numbers, were they to descend to minutiae, such diversity would appear, as would bid defiance to specific rules. The same mode that might be pursued with advantage in one mine, would be very improper in another.

The subordinate management of the mines is consigned to the care of captains; the number of whom increases in proportion to the size of the concern. It is their business to inspect the various departments of the work; to see that the men employed are properly distributed; to notice their industry or idleness; to observe the increase or the decline of the prospects before them; to regulate the price of labour according to the hardness or softness of the ground; and to mark the variations which appear. It is also their business to see that the more dangerous parts are sufficiently propped with timber; that some men are employed in making new discoveries, while others are raising ore to meet the common expenditure; to notice the consumption of candles and gunpowder, and the injury done to the working tools; to see that the slopes and levels are fairly worked; that the channels conveying the water are in a state of repair, and that they conduct their various streams to the engine shaft, from which it is raised from the mine; to observe that there is neither a deficiency nor an unnecessary waste of materials; and to take care that no fraud is committed in the private distribution of the ore that is broken. It must be obvious that these captains sustain offices of high responsibility; and to their honour it may be spoken, that with few exceptions, they have been found worthy of the confidence reposed in them.

The miners work sometimes for daily wages, but more generally on *tet-work* or *tribute*. This is an engagement into which they enter to work for one or two months, at a given price per fathom, forming their judgments from the appearance of the ground when they take their bargains, and running all hazards of its becoming more hard or soft. In these bargains the price varies from twenty shillings to twenty pounds per fathom; and it frequently happens that by the smaller sum the men get the better wages. Working on *tribute*, the men receive a given price from the value of all the ore they can raise in a given time, subject to such rules as belong to the mine. This also varies from sixpence to eight or ten shillings in the pound, according as the ground is rich or poor. In both cases the men labour on mere adventure, without being able to anticipate when they quit their work, what the earnings of the next day may be. These men in both modes of employ regularly succeed each other, through day and night, every six or eight hours, with the exception of Sundays.

Fisheries.

Amongst the fisheries of Cornwall, the pilchard is the principal; preparations for which are generally commenced about the end of July, at which time the pilchards are expected to pay their annual visit. They make their appearance chiefly in the evenings; so that the boats rarely go to sea before four o'clock, or continue longer than ten. Sometimes they again go out early in the morning, and occasionally take fish about the rising of the sun. The boats, scattered at a little distance from each other, wait those indications of a shoal with which the men are well acquainted. These are, the jumping of some of the pilchards above the surface of the water; the ascent of bubbles from the bottom, and a particular hue of redness which the water acquires when the shoal is large. After having ascertained the direction in which the shoal is moving, they proceed to enclose them in the large net in the following manner:—The end of the net being thrown overboard, the charge of which is committed to the *follower*, to prevent it from being dragged away, the seine-boat is rowed gently by some of the men, while others cast the net overboard. They always take a circular course; and their first care is to secure with the net that part to which the fish were swimming; and finally so to carry the net around them, that they shall be hemmed in on every side. The whole time considered necessary for two strong men to throw the net overboard, is from four to six minutes. The net immediately spreads itself, the corks on one edge rendering it buoyant, and the leads on the other causing it to sink to the bottom; for if the depth of the water exceeds the width of the seine, there is little or no probability of securing any fish, however large the shoal may be. As the circle which they take in throwing the seine into the water, is generally larger than the net can compass, its two extremities are at a distance from each other when all is in the water. Ropes therefore are carried out from each end, which cross each other, by which the men on board the two large boats warp them together until they are brought in contact. When this is done, the two extremities, if the shoal is thought to be large, are lifted from the bottom and laced together with the utmost expedition. While this is doing, every method is adopted to agitate the water, and drive back the body of fish from this only aperture through which they can possibly escape. This being done, the fish remain within an enclosure, the seine forming a circle round them, extending from the surface to the bottom of the sea. To secure the seine in this position, if they find it necessary from the probable quantity of fish enclosed to let it remain in the water, grapnels are carried out at some distance on every side, and thrown to the bottom; the ropes from which are fastened

to the rope at the upper edge of the net. These grapnels preserve the seine in its circular position against the influence of the tides and the changes of the weather. The shoals occasionally contain from two to five thousand hogsheds. And however doubtful it may appear to a perfect stranger, it must be obvious to every reflecting mind, that following the process thus described, there can be no more difficulty or labour to enclose 2000 hogsheds than five, as the same work must be accomplished in either case, except that of lacing the seine together and securing it with grapnels, which, with small shoals is rendered unnecessary. It has been found by experience, that a large shoal is more easily secured than a small one; as such large bodies move with less rapidity.

The stop-seine being thus lodged in the water and made secure, the tuck-seine is carried within the enclosure. This seine is made like the former, only it is not so long; but it is wider in the middle. It is then thrown around nearly parallel with the former; but being within its confines, less care is necessary than was before observed. Being carried round the fish, the foot-rope is drawn with its leads along the bottom, and afterwards raised in a gradual manner to the surface of the water; so that the fish lie in an enormous bag of net; this net is then gathered up round them, until they are drawn to the surface of the water, when the two large boats are laden, and the remaining part is turned back into the large enclosure. The boats then proceed to the shore, where women are waiting to receive them into the cellar for curing.

Another method of taking pilchards is with nets having larger meshes, in which the fish get entangled. These driving nets, as they are termed, are drawn after their respective boats, fastened only at one end, through which the pilchard is arrested as it attempts to pass. These boats and nets are always at a considerable distance from the shore, lest by approaching too near they should disperse the shoals which the seines are waiting to take. The quantity thus taken is very small; but the pilchards are remarkably fine, and the expence of the adventure is of little importance.

As the pilchards in general arrive in larger bodies, but with much less certainty, on the northern shores than on the southern, the method of managing the seines at St. Ives is somewhat different. In this place the same men who have secured one shoal, repair immediately to other boats, and in them secure a second; and in successive order they thus proceed until all their seines are in the water. These men follow the signals made by others called heughers, who watch from the hills the arrival and movements of the shoals. The taking up of the fish and carrying them on shore, are consigned to other boats better adapted for the purpose.

The pilchards being brought into the cellars, are laid down individually in layers, first on the floor, which is gently inclined, that the oil issuing from the bulk may find its way into a receptacle placed for the purpose. The quantity of salt allowed by government for each hogshead is five bushels, each weighing eighty-four pounds. For this salt, which is free of duty, a bond must be given by the fish-curers. The time allowed by the fish-curers for their pilchards to lie in bulk, is sometimes regulated by the wishes of the merchant, who is always ready to avail himself of the state of the foreign markets. The customary time is four weeks, and from thence varying to five or six; but no established rule prevails. Government commands thirty-three days.

The fish taken from the bulk are carried to large troughs, in which they are washed, and completely cleansed from the salt, filth, and coagulated oil, which they had acquired while lying in bulk. They are then laid in loose casks in much the same manner as when they were in the bulk, with this variation, that they partake of the circular form of the barrel. After being pressed and filled up again, the barrels are then headed up, branded with the curer's name, and exported as occasion may require.

Pilchards that are caught early and are fat, have generally been thought to yield one hogshead of oil from ten hogsheads of fish. But it frequently happens that double this quantity will not yield more. The oil varies in price, from £20 to £28 per ton. The common price of pilchards may be estimated at about £2 2s. per hogshead. The skimmings which float on the water in which the pilchards are washed when taken from the bulks, is called garbage, and is sold to the soap-boilers, at fifteen-pence per gallon. The dregs which remain in the oil reservoir, are sold to the curriers at about sixteen-pence per gallon on an average.

Few things are more precarious than the adventures in the pilchard fisheries. The first outfit of a seine, with its boats, oars, sails, ropes, nets, and a quantity of salt sufficient to cure 500 hogsheads of fish, if purchased new, cannot be estimated at less than £1000. On the southern coast, an average year of one seine may be estimated at 250 or 300 hogsheads; but it frequently happens that many seines scarcely take a single fish. The preparations for the water consist of three boats, two large ones and a small one. Each large boat contains seven men, and in the small one are the master, another man, and two boys. The *seine-boat* and the *follower* are names by which the two large boats are distinguished; and the small one is called the *lurker*.

To meet the general uncertainty of the pilchard fisheries, government, in addition to the salt duty free, has granted a bounty of 8s. 6d. on every hogshead of fish actually exported to a foreign market.

During the late war with France, the Italian ports being shut against us, induced the adventurers and merchants to explore a new market. This they found among the planters in the West Indies, who have occasionally purchased considerable quantities for the support of their slaves. The length of the voyage, and the heat of the climate, have however rendered some expensive precautions necessary. Instead of being closely pressed, and packed in loose barrels, it has been found necessary to carry them to market in tight casks filled with pickle. In some cases this adventure has been successful ; but as a permanent market the consumption is not equal to the supply which the county can afford. The return of peace has re-opened the markets in the Mediterranean ; and from the demands which have been made, the intercourse promises to be again established in all its former prosperity.

Besides pilchards, mackarel and herrings make their periodical appearance in immense shoals. Mackarel are taken in large nets called *drift-nets*, which are of various lengths, from 100 to 1000 fathoms, and ten fathoms deep. These nets are cast, or *shot*, from the boats, at the ebbing or flowing of the tide, and allowed to drift with the stream ; the bottom of the net being kept down by weights, and the top part supported by corks. The fish are caught by being entangled in the meshes, but their flavour is impaired, and the fish are often partially injured, from the struggles which they make to disengage themselves, and the length of time which elapses before they can expire in their own element. From April to October, and sometimes later, the mackarel rarely ever forsakes the Cornish coasts. The place of their principal resort is the neighbourhood of Penzance. When fresh, it is in universal estimation ; and in the western parts of the county, the vast numbers that are salted, form, in winter, among the lower and middling orders of society, one of the necessities of life.

The seacoast abounds with turbot, dories, mullet, cod, ling, conger, hake, haddock, pullock, whiting, plaice, gurnet, bream, thornback, &c. &c. and all kinds of shellfish.

THE END.

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